COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA.

LABOUR REPORT, 1939.

No. 30.

Prepared under Instructions from
THE HONORABLE THE TREASURER,
by
S. R. CARVER,
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

JUNE, 1941.

By Authority :
L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.
(Printed in Australia.)
[C.S. No. 681].—7523.

PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the thirtieth of the series and deals chiefly with the year 1939 but covers also earlier years, in most cases back to 1935. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1940. Compilation of the statistics was completed under the supervision of Dr. Roland Wilson.

The synopsis immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work, while an index has been inserted at the end of the volume to facilitate reference.

The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. A short account of the functions of the new Department of Labour and National Service is given in Appendix VIII. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, covering information in regard to Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages; Employment (Employment, Unemployment and Industrial Disputes), and Associations (Trade Unions and Employers' Associations).

For the purpose of tabulating the results of the investigations which have been made in regard to rates of wage, labour organizations, employers' associations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following classification of industries and occupations has been adopted:—

Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

It is gratifying to record that secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail dealers, house agents, and others have readily responded to the somewhat heavy demands made upon them.

Without the help so rendered, the investigations contained herein would have been impossible, and an expression of thanks is tendered to all who have thus assisted.

The valuable assistance rendered to the Bureau by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices, is acknowledged, and thanks are expressed to the officers concerned.

Special acknowledgment is made to Mr. H. G. Downing, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, for the care and attention which he has bestowed on the compilation of this Report and for seeing the matter through the press. Thanks are also due to the staff under his control for their cordial co-operation and valuable services.

S. R. CARVER,
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, A.C.T., June, 1941.

SYNOPSIS.

Page.

CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. **Collection of Returns of Retail Prices and Rents** 1

§ 2. **Compilation of Indexes of Retail Prices and Rents—**
1. General 1
2. The Regimen 2
3. The Mass Units 5
4. Relative Importance of the Items and Groups 7
5. Base Periods of the Indexes 7
6. The Methods of Tabulation 8
7. Relative Population Weights for Towns 8

§ 3. **The Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series) Index of Retail Prices—**
1. General 9
2. Retail Price Index-numbers—Capital Cities, 1907 to 1939 9
3. Retail Price Index-numbers—Thirty Towns, 1935 to June Quarter, 1940 10

§ 4. **The All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices—**
1. General 14
2. Retail Price Index-numbers—Capital Cities, 1914 to 1920 .. .. 14, 24
3. Retail Price Index-numbers—Thirty Towns, November, 1914, to June Quarter, 1940 14
Relative Cost of Each Group of Items, 1938 and 1939 21
4. Retail Price Index-numbers in Terms of Currency—Capital Cities, 1934 to June Quarter, 1940 21

§ 5. **Retail Price Index-numbers, 200 Towns—**
1. General 25
2. Retail Price Index-numbers—200 Towns, 1935 to 1939 25

§ 6. **Publication of Prices and Price Index-numbers** 30

§ 7. **Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920** 30

§ 8. **Changes in the Regimen** 32

§ 9. **Retail Price Index-numbers and Wage Variations—**
(i) "A" Series 35
(ii) "B" Series 35
(iii) "C" Series 35
(iv) "Court" Series 36
(v) "D" Series 36
(vi) Food and Groceries 37
(vii) The "200 Towns" Series 37
(viii) Relative Merits of Series 37

§ 10. **International Comparisons—Retail Price Index-numbers** 38

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. **Melbourne Wholesale Price Index—**
1. General 40
2. The Grouping of the Commodities 40
3. Index-numbers—Melbourne, 1861 to 1940 43
4. Variations since 1914 44

§ 2. **Basic Materials and Foodstuffs—**
1. General 44
2. Index-numbers, 1928 to 1940 45

§ 3. **International Comparisons—Wholesale Price Index-numbers** 46

CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

§ 1. **Operations under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation—**
1. General 4
2. Acts Regulating Industrial Matters 4
3. Methods of Administration 4
4. Awards and Determinations made and Industrial Agreements filed .. 4
5. Awards, Determinations and Agreements in Force 5
6 New Legislation and Special Reports 5

CHAPTER III.—WAGES—*continued.*

Page.

2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour—

1. General 55
2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914 to 1939 57
3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914 to 1939 57
4. Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914 to 1939 59
5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914 to 1939 60
6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1939—
   - (i) General 60
   - (ii) Adult Males 61
   - (iii) Adult Females 62
7. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1939 63
8. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1939 63
9. Adult Male Hourly Wages, 1914 to 1939 64
10. Adult Female Hourly Wages, 1914 to 1939 65
11. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, 1914 to 1939 66
12. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, 1914 to 1939 67
13. Nominal and Effective Wages 68
14. Productive Activity 71

§ **3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia—**

1. The Basic Wage 74
2. The Commonwealth Basic Wage—
   - (i) General 75
   - (ii) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934 77
   - (iii) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937 78
   - (iv) " Lag " in Adjustments 79
   - (v) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1940 79
3. State Basic Wages 81
4. Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920 87
5. Child Endowment 87

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT.

§ **1. Industrial Disputes—**

1. General 90
2. Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1939 90
3. Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1939 91
4. Industrial Disputes, 1935 to 1939 94
5. Duration of Industrial Disputes 95
6. Causes of Industrial Disputes 97
7. Results of Industrial Disputes 98
8. Methods of Settlement 100

§ **2. Fluctuations in Employment—**

1. General 102
2. Unemployment—
   - (i) Australia, 1891 to June Quarter, 1940 103
   - (ii) Australia, by Industries, 1939 104
   - (iii) Australia, by Industries, 1912, and Quarterly, 1938 to 1940 .. 105
   - (iv) States, 1939 105
   - (v) States, 1927 to 1939, and Quarterly, 1936 to 1940 106
3. Causes of Unemployment 106
4. Seasonal Employment in Australia 106

§ **3. Direct Measures of Employment—**

1. General 107
2. Index of Employment in Factories 107
3. Index of Employment in Retail Stores 108
4. Estimates of Total Employment in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania 108

§ **4. Relief of Unemployment—**

1. Special Legislation for the Relief of Unemployment and Rates of Taxation 114
2. Unemployment Relief—Sustenance Rates 118
3. Unemployment Relief Funds 126
4. Numbers in Receipt of Sustenance 131
5. Youth Employment 132

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT—*continued.*

§ 5. State Labour Exchanges. Page.

1. General 133
2. Present Position and Scope 134
3. Registered Unemployed at State Labour Exchanges 141

§ 6. Industrial Accidents—

1. Source of Information 142
2. Number of Accidents Reported 143
3. Accidents in Industrial Groups 143
4. Mining Accidents 144

CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations—

1. General 145
2. Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1935 to 1939 146
3. Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1935 to 1939 147
4. Trade Unions—Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners 147
5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1935 to 1939 149
6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions 150
7. Central Labour Organizations 150
8. Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 151

§ 2. Employers' Associations—

1. General 151
2. Employers' Associations in each State 152
3. Employers' Associations in Industrial Groups 152
4. Employers' Associations in Membership Groups 153
5. Federations of Employers' Associations 154

§ 3. International Comparisons—

1. The International Labour Conferences 154
2. Unemployment 155
3. Retail Prices of Food—Various Countries 156

APPENDIX.

Section I. Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items, Capital Cities, during each month of 1939 159

,, II. Weekly House Rents in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1935 to 1939 165

,, III. Retail Price Index-numbers—The "Court" Series Index .. 166

,, IV. Minimum Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour for Adult Male Workers, 31st December, 1939 167

,, V. Minimum Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour for Adult Female Workers, 31st December, 1939 181

,, VI. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour, Australia and other countries 184

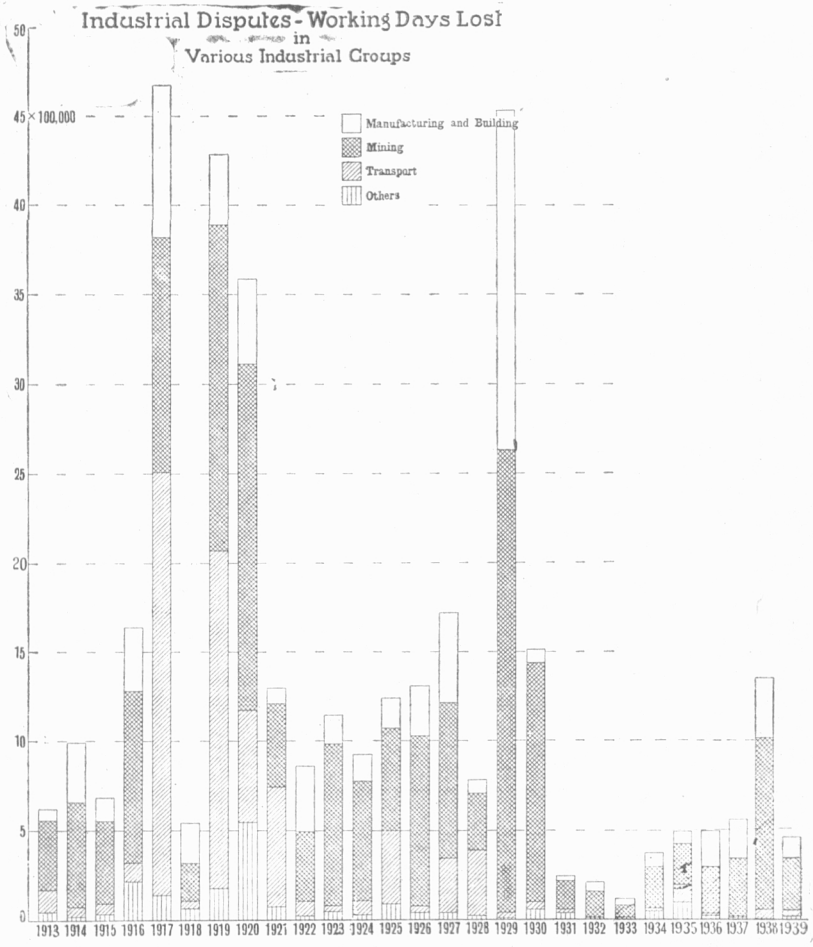
,, VII. Comparative Index-numbers, Six Capital Cities (1911 Base) .. 187

,, VIII. Department of Labour and National Service 188

INDEX 191

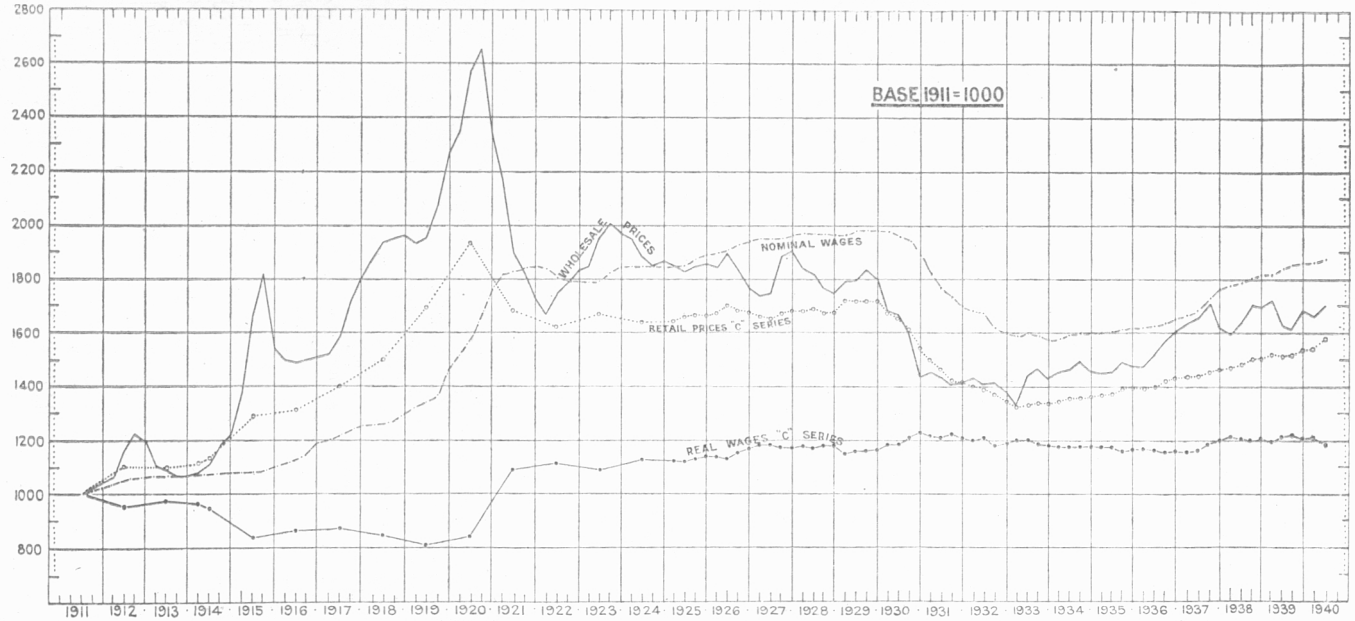
GRAPHS.

1. Industrial Disputes—Working Days Lost in Industrial Groups, 1913 to 1939 .. vii
2. Retail Prices, Wholesale Prices and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-numbers, and Percentage of Unemployed viii



EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1917, and comparing the shaded and blank sections with the scale, it will be observed that about 870,000 working days were lost in Manufacturing and Building, over 1,300,000 in Mining, over 2,300,000 in Transport, and about 150,000 in other industries.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES, NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE OR REAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS.—AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1940.



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the above graph are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices which are for Melbourne. They are all calculated to the common base 1911 = 1,000, the scale for which appears on the left of the graph. They are shown *quarterly* from 1912 in the case of the Wholesale Prices (Melbourne). The "C" Series Retail Prices (food, groceries, rent of 4 and 5 rooms, clothing and miscellaneous household expenditure) are shown *quarterly* from 1925. Nominal Wages are shown *quarterly* from 1914, and Real Wages *quarterly* from 1925 for the "C" Series.

CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1.—Collection of Returns of Retail Prices and Rents.

One of the most important functions of the Labour Section of the Bureau is the regular collection and tabulation of returns of retail prices and house rentals.

The retail prices of an extensive range of articles and services in common demand are collected at frequent intervals from representative retail establishments in the more important towns throughout the Commonwealth. The prices of a less extensive range of commodities are also collected at annual intervals from most towns of any significant size, the total number of towns so covered reaching approximately 200.

Definite standards of quality have been established for each article in order to ensure that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for articles of identical grade or quality will be recorded at all times and for all places. These standards, which are incorporated in printed "specifications", are closely watched and revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing trade practices and conditions.

The actual collection of the data is carried out, under the direct supervision of the State Statisticians, by specially qualified officers of the Bureau, while two supervising field officers are provided to assist in the co-ordination of activities in the several States. The prices of foods are obtained, where practicable, from about ten retailers in each of the capital cities, and from about five retailers in the provincial towns. Tradespeople and agents are carefully selected in order to ensure the supply of representative figures for the whole of each town, and returns are carefully verified if there should be any doubt as to the accuracy of the information supplied.

Returns of rents are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number of house-agents in each town, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to the number of rooms. These returns show the rents of individual houses, all of which are inspected by the Bureau's field officers.

§ 2. Compilation of Indexes of Retail Prices and Rents.

1. **General.**—The methods adopted for the compilation of indexes of retail prices and rents are briefly described in the following pages. For a more detailed explanation, and an analysis of the problems involved, the reader should refer to the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.

12. **The "Regimen".**—The "regimen" from which the retail price indexes are compiled consists of a list of those commodities and services which most commonly enter into the consumption of the average household. The regimen is divided into the following distinct Groups and Sections :—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries	A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing	E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous	K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

An index (the "All Items" or "C" series) is compiled for the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for each Group or Section separately. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau :—

Group.	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5 rooms)	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 rooms) ("B" Series)	Quarterly
III.	Clothing	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" series)	Quarterly
I.	Food and Groceries ("200 Towns" series)	Yearly

For convenience of reference several of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table :—

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.

GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

No.	Item.	Unit.	Mass Unit (per capita).	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost—Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1939. (a)
	SECTION A.—GROCERIES.			
1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered)	2-lb. loaf	100	6.1
2	Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	25	1.2
3	Flour, self-raising	2-lb. pkt.	12	1.0
4	Tea	1-lb. pkt.	8	2.7
5	Sugar, white granulated, IA	1 lb.	100	4.5
6	Rice, polished (Australian)	1 lb.	8	0.3
7	Sago, seed tapioca	1 lb.	1	0.1
8	Jam, plum	1½-lb. tin	8	0.8
9	Golden Syrup	2-lb. tin	1	0.1
10	Oats, flaked, loose	1 lb.	8	0.3
11	Raisins, seeded	1-lb. pkt.	5	0.6
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	2	0.2
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	1	0.2
14	Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin	3	0.3
15	Pears, canned	30-oz. tin	1	0.1
16	Salmon, in tins	1-lb. tin	3	0.4
17	Potatoes, new and old	7 lb.	18	4.2
18	Onions, brown	1 lb.	14	0.4
19	Soap	1 lb.	16	1.2
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk	quart	4	0.2
	SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.			
21	Butter, factory "choicest"	1 lb.	30	6.6
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild	1 lb.	4	0.6
23	Eggs, standard, new laid	1 doz.	6	1.0
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle	1 lb.	12	2.7
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened	1 tin	5	0.5
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled	quart	72	5.6
	SECTION C.—MEAT.			
	Beef (fresh)—			
27	Sirloin (Roast)	1 lb.	18	2.1
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone	1 lb.	22	2.1
29	Steak—Rump	1 lb.	11	1.9
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing)	1 lb.	20	1.6
31	Sausages	1 lb.	7	0.4
	Beef (corned)—			
32	Silverside	1 lb.	14	1.4
33	Brisket, rolled	1 lb.	15	1.1
	Mutton (fresh)—			
34	Leg	1 lb.	20	1.7
35	Forequarter	1 lb.	15	0.8
36	Loin	1 lb.	4	0.3
37	Chops—Loin	1 lb.	30	2.7
38	Chops—Leg	1 lb.	10	1.0
	Pork (fresh)—			
39	Leg	1 lb.	3	0.5
40	Loin	1 lb.	3	0.5
41	Chops	1 lb.	3	0.5
	GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.			
42	House Accommodation(b)	week	52(c)	39.5

(a) "B" Series. (b) Four and five roomed houses. (c) Per household.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued.*

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.*

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per capita).
	SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.	
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67
2	Trousers, working, Cotton Tweed (Australian)	2.00
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion, with two collars ..	1.67
6	Shirt, working—Drill	4.00
7	Collar, semi-soft, white	6.00
8	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
10	Underpants, Wool and Cotton (full length)	1.00
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts" (plain)	1.00
12	Sox, All Wool (fancy)	2.00
13	Sox, Wool and Cotton (fancy) ..	4.00
14	Braces	1.33
15	Handkerchief, Cotton	6.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
17	Pullover, All Wool	1.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf ..	0.50
19	Boots, working, Box Hide ..	1.50
	SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.	
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25
22	.. ..	..
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	0.75
24	Hat, Straw	1.50
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton ..	1.50
26	Frock, ready-made, Art Silk ..	1.50
27	Brassiere, Cotton Brocade ..	4.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Art Silk ..	1.50
29	Undervest, Art Silk	1.50
30	.. ..	..
31	Bloomers, Art Silk	4.50
32	Princess Slip, Art Silk	1.00
33	Stockings, Silk	6.00
34	Stockings, Lisle	3.00
35	Gloves, Fabric	2.25
36	Gloves, Nappa	0.75
37	Nightdress, Art Silk	1.50
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
39	Dressing Gown, Art Silk ..	0.50
40	Apron, Cotton	6.00
41	Cardigan, All Wool	0.50
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid ..	1.50
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).	
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—*contd.*	
46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
47	Cap, Skull, Cloth	1.50
48	.. ..	..
49	Shirt, Sports	5.00
50	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00
51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
52	Braces	1.00
53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool ..	4.00
54	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
55	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
56	Shoes (for best wear), Box Yearling	3.00
57	.. ..	..
	SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).	
58	Tunic, Wool	1.00
59	.. ..	..
60	Dress, Cotton	3.00
61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian) ..	0.33
62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
63	Hat, Straw	2.00
64	.. ..	..
65	Petticoat, Art Silk	1.00
66	Singlet, Silk and Wool	0.50
67	Singlet, Art Silk	0.50
68	Bloomers, Cotton and Art Silk, fleecy-lined	2.00
69	Bloomers, Art Silk	2.00
70	Stockings, Cashmere	4.00
71	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. .	0.33
72	Pyjamas, Art Silk	0.33
73	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling ..	1.50
	SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).	
76	Blouse Coat	3.00
77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
79	Hat, Cloth	1.33
80	Singlet, Wool and Cotton ..	1.00
81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
82	Sox, Art Silk and Lisle	4.00
83	Pyjamas, Winceyette	2.00
84	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00

* The total cost of each section is multiplied by a section "weight" representing the proportion of the population covered by the section.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per household).
	SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.	
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.07
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair).. ..	0.14
3	Quilt, D.B. Marcella	0.25
4	.. ..	..
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair)	0.50
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair)	1.00
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton	5.00
8	Towel	3.00
9	Table Cloth	0.20
10	Tea Towel (yard)	4.00
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.	
11	Cup and Saucer (Stone China)..	2.00
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China) ..	2.00
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware) ..	1.00
14	Teapot, Brownware (2-pint) .	0.25
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6¼-inch	1.00
16	Tumbler (8-oz.)	1.00
17	Kettle, Enamel (6-pint) ..	0.20
18	Kettle, Aluminium (6-pint) ..	0.20
19	Saucepan, Aluminium (3-pint)	0.40
20	Bucket, Galvanized (12-inch) ..	0.20
21	Dipper, Galvanized (2-quart) ..	0.20
22	Broom, Millet	0.50
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch)	0.33
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch) ..	1.50
25	Mop, Polishing, complete ..	0.20
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—*continued.*	
26	Knife, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
27	Spoon, Tea (stainless) ..	0.08
28	Spoon, Dessert (stainless) ..	0.08
29	Fork, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled)	2.00
31	Iron, Electric (full size) ..	0.10
	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.	
32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (*a*) ..	40
33	Gas, cooking (units) (*a*) ..	1,518
34	Electric lighting (units) ..	130
35	Electric power (units) (*a*) ..	130

No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.	
36	Union Dues	*d.* (*b*)
37	Lodge Dues	} 24
38	Medicine	
39	Newspapers . ..	(*b*)
40	Recreation	24
41	Smoking	(*b*)
42	Fares	(*b*)
43	School requisites	3

(*a*) Standard mass-units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass-units differ from the standard.

(*b*) A definite basic amount per week is provided for each of these items, and varied in accordance with Resolution 20 of the Conference of Statisticians, 1936.

3. **The Mass Units.**—The "mass units" or "multipliers" represent the estimated annual consumption per head or per household as the case may be in Australia of the units of quantity shown. Thus the *per capita* consumption of bread in Australia is estimated to be 100 2-lb. loaves and of sugar 100 lb., and the consumption of towels per household is estimated to be three. In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the "mass units" adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. In the case of Housing (Group II.), the "mass unit" is the multiplier applied to the weekly rental to raise it to an annual basis. In the case of Sections E to J, the "mass units" represent the estimated annual consumption per head of the articles mentioned. In the case of Sections K to M, the "mass units" represent the estimated consumption per household; while in Section N are shown the actual amounts provided to cover the estimated cost of the services included for an average household.

It will be noted that the "mass units" are all shown on the basis of consumption per head or per household. In the tabulation for index-number purposes, the figures are raised to a "total population" basis, by multiplying the aggregate cost of each Group or Section by the numbers of the population

properly applicable to it. Thus Group I. (Food and Groceries) is multiplied by the whole population ; Group II. (Housing) by the total number of households ; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportions of the population applicable to each ; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households. The resultant index-numbers measure changes, therefore, in the cost to the whole population of the commodities and services included.

The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they are those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see § 7, p. 31). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years ; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years ; and the section for the boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the weights given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. Foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen, owing to the fact that comparable prices for a standard grade for these items cannot be obtained ; a further difficulty arises from the seasonal character of their production and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy and stability of the index, and even if accurate information could be obtained, the index would probably not be materially affected by their inclusion. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices. Some of the joints of meat, for example, are not only insufficiently standardized, but anomalies in price are not uncommon. In making these omissions, however, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the more standardized joints.

The estimated annual consumption per head of articles of clothing and miscellaneous household requirements is based largely on the results of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission established what it considered a desirable " regimen " for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its " Indicator List ". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question, was followed substantially in the original compilation of the " All Items " index, but, as old articles were deleted and new ones substituted, appropriate modifications were introduced. In these revisions the principle has been followed of redistributing the mass-units in the manner most conformable to the original findings of the Commission.

The mass-units used for fuel and light are also based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until the September quarter of 1936 flat amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, their chief function—apart from a slight stabilizing influence on the index-numbers—being to vary in accordance with the Commission's findings the relative heights of the index-numbers for the several States. Since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary the amounts set down for three of these items periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

4. **Relative Importance of the Items and Groups.**—The relative importance in the grand aggregate of any item of the regimen will, of course, change slightly with the variation of prices. In the last column of the regimen for Groups I. (Food and Groceries) and II. (Housing) shown on page 3, the approximate relative importance of the items in these two groups can be gauged from the figures shown for Melbourne for the December quarter of 1939. The relative importance of all the groups and sections in the "All Items" ("C" series) index for Melbourne for the same quarter was as follows :—

Group.	Section.	Percentage of Total Aggregate Cost.	
I. Food and Groceries	A Groceries	15.0	36.4
	B Dairy Produce	10.2	
	C Meat	11.2	
II. Housing	D House Rent (4 and 5 rooms)	23.8	23.8
III. Clothing	E Man	8.2	20.3
	F Woman	8.8	
	G Boy, 10½ years	1.6	
	H Girl, 7 years	1.1	
	J Boy, 3½ years	0.6	
IV. Miscellaneous	K Household Drapery	1.3	19.5
	L Household Utensils	0.5	
	M Fuel and Light	5.0	
	N Other Miscellaneous	12.7	
		100.0	

5. **Base Periods of the Indexes.**—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "All Items" ("C" series) index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a post-war base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923–27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted aggregate cost of the regimen in the six capital cities during the period taken as base.

Index-numbers on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows :—

(i) 1911 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) 1914 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report from Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics up to No. 155, June, 1938.

The conversion of these index-numbers from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table :—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

6. **The Methods of Tabulation.**—The prices (converted to pence) received from each retailer for each item of the regimen are added together and divided by the number of individual prices. These averages are then multiplied by their respective "mass units". The sum of these products for each section or group of the regimen is then multiplied by the population factor applicable to such section or group. The aggregate so produced for any section, group or combination thereof for the period taken as the base of the indexes is regarded as equal to 1,000. The index-number for any other period is then calculated by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for such period bears to the base aggregate. The various base periods adopted for retail price indexes from time to time are set out in paragraph 5 of this section.

7. **Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows :—

Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in the March Quarter of 1937.

* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual populations at that date.

The new weights given above produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

§ 3. The Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled in respect of the year 1925, and index-numbers were retrospectively computed for the several earlier years shown below. It was designed to replace the "A" series index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index first compiled by this Bureau in 1912. Owing, however, to the continued use of the latter index by Industrial Tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wages to variations in retail prices, the "B" series index never replaced the "A" series in this connexion.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1907 to 1939.**—Index numbers computed separately for each section of the regimen, and the weighted average for all sections together, for the capital city of each State are shown in the next table.

Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities. ("B" Series.)

The index-numbers given in the separate sections of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of housing and food and groceries, since each section or combination has its own base, viz., the weighted average cost for the six capital cities taken together during the five-yearly period 1923–1927 for that section or combination.

(*Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities*, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
SECTION A.—GROCERIES.									
Sydney	510	574	627	1,115	875	859	872	887	994
Melbourne	461	521	562	1,070	824	829	829	835	957
Brisbane	547	614	607	1,105	846	868	869	871	944
Adelaide	510	541	598	1,076	804	814	838	831	939
Perth	572	720	628	1,103	852	864	906	897	966
Hobart	501	566	604	1,087	812	840	871	874	947
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	499	564	599	1,093	846	846	857	864	969
SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.									
Sydney	551	574	656	1,080	788	791	817	850	851
Melbourne	571	567	635	1,087	750	773	813	861	885
Brisbane	495	581	588	983	691	709	768	791	793
Adelaide	548	651	705	1,018	715	728	774	802	800
Perth	709	733	735	1,152	801	816	830	864	870
Hobart	564	587	695	1,091	701	702	765	802	844
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	563	591	654	1,072	758	771	807	843	853

(*a*) For Six Capital Cities.

Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities—"B" Series—*continued.*

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
SECTION C.—MEAT.									
Sydney	519	501	668	960	835	881	906	969	935
Melbourne	557	485	663	1,030	755	809	857	960	968
Brisbane	535	488	610	897	719	764	825	834	822
Adelaide	553	541	784	1,095	804	839	851	950	929
Perth	789	824	881	1,103	788	867	887	926	958
Hobart	668	638	780	1,244	849	928	964	957	961
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	558	522	691	1,010	792	842	877	948	936
SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.									
Sydney	523	553	646	1,062	840	848	868	904	936
Melbourne	517	523	610	1,063	784	809	836	884	942
Brisbane	530	569	603	1,014	763	791	828	838	864
Adelaide	532	570	679	1,066	780	798	826	861	897
Perth	670	753	728	1,116	821	853	881	899	938
Hobart	565	592	678	1,133	792	827	870	880	923
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	533	559	640	1,064	806	825	851	886	927
SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).									
Sydney	593	701	760	989	891	930	965	1,004	1,035
Melbourne	455	569	628	820	850	882	909	935	955
Brisbane	283	373	466	630	720	766	822	841	854
Adelaide	510	706	655	809	736	795	832	868	888
Perth	458	524	589	739	792	844	861	872	881
Hobart	405	452	518	881	890	908	899	913	925
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	497	612	662	862	839	879	912	942	965
ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.									
Sydney	548	606	687	1,036	858	878	904	941	972
Melbourne	495	539	616	977	808	835	862	902	945
Brisbane	442	500	554	877	747	781	824	838	858
Adelaide	524	618	671	975	764	796	826	862	891
Perth	594	672	679	982	810	849	871	887	914
Hobart	508	542	621	1,044	827	856	879	891	922
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	520	578	648	992	818	844	872	906	939

(*a*) For Six Capital Cities.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, 1935 to 1940.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices of food and groceries (41 commodities) in 30 of the more important towns at yearly, quarterly and monthly intervals. In addition, index-numbers are given showing for the years specified the quarterly and yearly variations in house rents (4 and 5-rooms) and in the combined prices of food, groceries and housing.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series).

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1935 ..	840	860	935	822	824	843	784	812	809	797	816	786
1936 ..	848	860	949	841	838	851	809	839	824	806	823	810
1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	898	909	884	882	889	889	891	884
1939 ..	**936**	**965**	**1,106**	**991**	**940**	**942**	**942**	**939**	**930**	**946**	**955**	**942**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	944	973	1,160	998	942	951	951	933	938	947	948	950
June ,,	930	962	1,121	991	938	936	942	941	929	945	953	942
Sept. ,,	930	958	1,068	986	936	935	932	940	916	943	957	933
Dec. ,,	940	968	1,074	990	944	946	942	942	937	947	963	942
1940 Mar. Qtr.	933	961	1,052	978	928	938	922	918	919	918	933	922
June ,,	957	985	1,074	1,013	960	962	954	943	956	946	962	954
1939.												
January ..	937	964	1,144	984	932	943	931	914	920	924	944	930
February ..	957	982	1,174	1,006	948	964	962	936	947	957	951	960
March ..	938	973	1,163	1,002	946	946	961	954	946	961	950	960
April ..	937	975	1,156	995	944	944	962	957	945	962	959	961
May ..	924	957	1,144	990	936	931	936	935	922	942	952	936
June ..	928	953	1,064	987	935	933	927	931	920	932	948	927
July ..	928	952	1,070	972	933	933	935	945	919	946	962	936
August ..	926	960	1,069	991	939	932	931	939	915	942	952	932
September ..	934	962	1,065	994	937	940	930	937	914	941	955	930
October ..	949	989	1,086	1,003	962	955	947	944	933	946	970	947
November ..	943	969	1,079	996	947	948	958	963	952	973	974	959
December ..	929	946	1,058	972	924	933	920	920	926	921	944	921
1940												
January ..	925	953	1,046	973	919	930	909	911	907	907	928	909
February ..	931	960	1,050	979	921	936	922	920	916	920	932	921
March ..	942	972	1,057	985	947	947	935	923	933	929	938	934
April ..	968	986	1,074	1,004	962	972	947	939	953	941	953	947
May ..	952	986	1,073	1,019	959	958	958	946	957	948	964	957
June ..	951	983	1,074	1,015	958	957	959	944	958	948	970	958
HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).												
1935 ..	891	839	644	860	777	881	850	666	688	812	843	838
1936 ..	930	857	653	879	814	918	882	683	702	861	836	869
1937 ..	965	830	669	873	816	947	909	699	720	836	859	894
1938 ..	1,004	860	730	873	822	985	935	695	709	851	915	917
1939 ..	**1,035**	**890**	**764**	**871**	**843**	**1,015**	**955**	**714**	**731**	**876**	**921**	**938**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	879	756	872	841	1,007	949	713	725	870	916	932
June ,,	1,033	889	757	870	839	1,014	954	713	725	875	916	936
Sept. ,,	1,039	894	768	871	845	1,019	957	722	735	878	924	940
Dec. ,,	1,040	897	773	871	846	1,021	960	708	739	880	929	942
1940 Mar. Qtr.	1,041	899	776	870	845	1,022	964	706	735	880	931	946
June ,,	1,041	899	778	872	845	1,022	967	704	734	883	933	949
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.												
1935 ..	858	853	832	835	808	857	808	760	766	802	826	805
1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831
1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	899	862	794	798	833	842	857
1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895
1939 ..	**972**	**934**	**970**	**942**	**900**	**969**	**945**	**849**	**851**	**917**	**940**	**938**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	974	934	1,000	946	900	971	948	845	853	915	934	941
June ,,	968	931	977	941	898	964	944	850	848	916	936	937
Sept. ,,	970	931	948	939	899	966	940	853	843	916	942	933
Dec. ,,	977	938	954	941	904	973	947	848	858	919	948	940
1940 Mar. Qtr.	973	935	942	934	893	968	936	833	845	901	930	929
June ,,	988	949	956	955	913	983	957	848	867	919	949	950

(a) See explanatory note at top of table on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B" Series.)—*continued.*

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1935 ..	763	732	803	849*b*	754*c*	765	780	860	813	777	812	784
1936 ..	791	761	846	880*b*	781*c*	795	798	874	864	804	838	803
1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
1939 ..	**864**	**823**	**904**	**961**	**912**	**872**	**897**	**973**	**996**	**937**	**981**	**904**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	884	841	922	985	928	892	907	965	1,005	923	981	913
June ,,	857	822	901	960	910	866	904	969	997	950	977	910
Sept. ,,	855	812	892	950	904	863	888	981	997	925	982	896
Dec. ,,	859	817	899	950	906	866	888	976	984	951	984	896
1940 Mar. Qtr.	874	831	918	961	921	882	881	951	965	895	961	887
June ,,	883	852	927	977	932	892	913	969	995	926	984	918
1939.												
January ..	868	819	914	973	912	876	888	946	983	914	943	894
February ..	898	859	931	992	940	906	914	978	1,018	929	1,004	921
March ..	887	843	922	989	933	895	919	971	1,013	927	995	925
April ..	883	850	922	982	934	892	919	971	1,005	930	986	924
May ..	848	815	897	952	901	858	899	969	995	978	975	907
June ..	838	802	884	946	896	848	892	966	991	941	970	899
July ..	851	810	892	949	899	859	889	983	995	920	978	897
August ..	855	812	893	948	906	862	882	980	1,001	930	983	891
September ..	860	814	893	953	906	867	893	980	996	926	984	900
October ..	873	823	906	955	909	879	902	990	999	948	1,000	910
November ..	854	815	885	948	904	862	883	981	986	976	984	892
December ..	849	814	906	946	906	859	878	958	967	931	969	885
1940.												
January ..	868	823	918	959	914	876	872	956	951	897	957	879
February ..	877	829	917	956	925	883	883	948	961	893	960	889
March ..	877	839	919	966	926	885	888	946	980	894	963	894
April ..	889	858	934	982	938	898	900	961	995	910	988	906
May ..	882	850	929	982	935	892	919	969	991	932	980	924
June ..	877	847	920	967	922	885	919	977	999	935	985	925
HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).												
1935 ..	720	746	596	530*b*	645*c*	707	736	393	625	626	663	719
1936 ..	766	798	608	510*b*	622*c*	748	795	381	629	648	721	772
1937 ..	822	840	728	844	575	810	832	371	659	685	737	808
1938 ..	841	834	744	857	626	828	868	386	689	687	739	843
1939 ..	**854**	**847**	**753**	**861**	**640**	**840**	**888**	**388**	**710**	**686**	**753**	**862**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	852	848	753	860	638	839	884	388	701	688	747	857
June ,,	853	836	753	861	638	839	888	388	704	685	748	861
Sept. ,,	855	851	753	861	642	841	890	388	715	685	753	863
Dec. ,,	855	851	754	861	642	841	891	388	719	687	762	865
1940 Mar. Qtr.	855	850	754	862	643	841	892	387	716	687	774	865
June ,,	857	850	755	861	643	843	892	387	716	690	774	866
FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.												
1935 ..	747	737	730	736*b*	716*c*	745	764	694	746	723	759	761
1936 ..	781	774	757	741*b*	721*c*	777	796	689	775	745	793	791
1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821
1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855
1939 ..	**858**	**830**	**843**	**920**	**804**	**858**	**891**	**743**	**882**	**838**	**890**	**885**
1939 Mar Qtr.	870	842	854	934	813	869	896	738	884	830	887	889
June ,,	853	826	841	919	802	853	895	740	881	844	886	889
Sept. ,,	853	825	836	913	800	853	887	748	885	830	890	881
Dec. ,,	855	828	840	913	801	855	887	745	878	846	895	882
1940 Mar. Qtr.	865	836	852	920	811	864	883	729	865	812	886	877
June ,,	871	849	858	929	817	871	903	740	884	831	900	896

(*a*) See note at top of table on page 9. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B" Series)—*continued.*

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, 6 Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.		
FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
1935 ..	821	977	852	850	846	834	792	789	830	808	905	797	806	810
1936 ..	853	998	898	866	910	866	827	806	847	831	898	824	825	828
1937 ..	881	1,012	928	891	961	892	870	857	902	891	927	870	851	854
1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	889	916	908	975	889	886	890
1939 ..	**938**	**1,092**	**972**	**967**	**947**	**951**	**923**	**914**	**941**	**933**	**1,018**	**925**	927	931
1939 Mar. Qtr.	931	1,092	966	950	947	944	913	913	932	926	1,012	918	935	939
June ,,	950	1,095	982	977	955	962	921	916	939	936	1,024	924	925	929
Sept. ,,	944	1,098	979	974	952	957	916	908	940	930	1,017	919	920	924
Dec. ,,	926	1,084	960	966	933	939	941	917	951	940	1,018	937	927	930
1940 Mar. Qtr.	920	1,072	951	945	923	932	918	907	930	929	1,010	919	917	921
June ,,	956	1,089	981	975	941	966	935	932	945	945	1,024	938	944	947
1939.														
January ..	910	1,077	949	932	934	924	903	905	919	913	1,001	908	921	925
February ..	940	1,108	971	947	952	953	917	921	942	941	1,016	923	947	950
March ..	942	1,091	978	971	955	954	920	912	935	925	1,020	922	938	942
April ..	961	1,104	991	983	962	972	922	917	941	937	1,028	925	939	943
May ..	944	1,089	984	978	952	956	925	917	940	937	1,022	927	919	924
June ..	945	1,093	971	970	951	957	917	913	937	934	1,021	921	916	920
July ..	945	1,092	977	972	951	957	914	910	933	930	1,021	918	920	923
August ..	947	1,102	981	975	958	960	914	905	942	930	1,018	917	918	922
September ..	941	1,100	978	974	948	954	920	909	944	931	1,011	921	922	925
October ..	947	1,110	980	983	956	961	942	918	953	935	1,018	937	936	940
November ..	919	1,076	954	961	926	932	944	921	961	938	1,018	940	932	935
December ..	911	1,067	947	954	917	924	937	912	938	946	1,017	933	912	916
1940.														
January ..	912	1,065	945	941	921	925	913	897	924	924	1,003	912	908	912
February ..	919	1,074	952	944	924	932	924	910	930	927	1,007	923	917	920
March ..	928	1,075	954	948	923	939	918	913	935	934	1,018	921	927	930
April ..	953	1,080	971	964	930	962	932	933	947	940	1,020	936	945	948
May ..	954	1,091	983	981	942	965	936	932	936	941	1,026	938	944	947
June ..	961	1,095	989	981	952	972	938	933	953	953	1,026	941	944	947
HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).														
1935 ..	792	1,050	767	810	940	813	890	778	698	736	730	836	839	828
1936 ..	844	1,174	794	886	1,010	872	908	811	750	726	755	858	879	866
1937 ..	861	1,309	860	983	1,064	901	899	826	816	723	798	861	912	897
1938 ..	872	1,319	879	994	1,055	911	913	838	830	756	788	875	942	925
1939 ..	**881**	**1,318**	**886**	**1,005**	**1,064**	**919**	**925**	**851**	**836**	**763**	**806**	**887**	**965**	**947**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	878	1,317	883	1,003	1,058	916	920	847	831	757	803	882	959	941
June ,,	881	1,321	886	1,000	1,066	919	924	849	830	763	803	885	963	946
Sept. ,,	881	1,317	886	1,008	1,067	920	927	853	835	765	803	889	967	950
Dec. ,,	882	1,317	887	1,007	1,065	920	930	855	849	767	814	892	969	951
1940 Mar. Qtr.	883	1,314	888	1,005	1,065	921	932	855	850	767	814	893	971	953
June ,,	882	1,316	890	1,004	1,067	920	932	855	848	767	812	893	972	954
FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.														
1935 ..	810	1,003	822	836	879	826	827	785	785	783	843	811	818	816
1936 ..	849	1,064	858	873	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835	844	841
1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	999	894	879	843	866	824	874	865	872	869
1938 ..	887	1,152	911	945	974	909	891	867	880	846	900	882	909	902
1939 ..	**914**	**1,178**	**936**	**979**	**990**	**936**	**922**	**887**	**898**	**865**	**933**	**908**	**939**	**935**
1939 Mar. Qtr.	908	1,177	931	968	988	931	914	885	890	858	929	902	942	938
June ,,	921	1,181	942	984	996	943	920	888	895	866	936	907	938	934
Sept. ,,	918	1,181	940	985	995	940	918	884	897	864	931	905	936	932
Dec. ,,	907	1,173	929	980	982	929	935	891	909	870	936	917	941	936
1940 Mar. Qtr.	903	1,166	924	966	976	926	922	885	897	864	931	907	936	931
June ,,	925	1,175	943	984	988	940	932	900	905	873	939	919	953	948

(a) See note at top of table on page 9.

§ 4. The All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements, and for convenience of reference has been designated the "All Items" ("C" series) index. It has become more important in recent years because of its adoption by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court from 1st May, 1934, for the adjustment of wages controlled by that Court. It is used at present as the basis of the "Court" series of index-numbers adopted from July, 1937, by the same Court.

The compilation of this series was undertaken by the Bureau following a recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. A short account of its inquiries and findings is contained in section 7 of this chapter. The Commission itself had collected data on prices in the capital cities for the month of November, 1914 to 1920 inclusive. In consequence, the Bureau commenced its own more comprehensive inquiries in the five principal towns of each State, as from November, 1921, and continued them at quarterly intervals thereafter.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1914 to 1920.**—The table published on page 24 gives index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in each capital city, of (i) food and groceries, (ii) housing (4 and 5 rooms), (iii) food, groceries and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous household requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined, in the years 1914 to 1920 inclusive. The index-numbers for the clothing and miscellaneous groups for these years were compiled from data collected by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, November, 1914 to June Quarter 1940.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in 30 of the more important towns, of (i) food and groceries, (ii) housing, (iii) food, groceries and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined.

Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(*Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities*, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1934 ..	825	834	917	815	802	827	748	774	783	760	783	751
" 1935 ..	840	860	935	822	824	843	784	812	809	797	816	786
" 1936 ..	848	860	949	841	838	851	809	839	824	806	823	810
" 1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
" 1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	898	909	884	882	889	889	891	884
" 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
1939 Mar. Qtr.	944	973	1,160	998	942	951	951	933	938	947	948	950
" June "	930	962	1,121	991	938	936	942	941	929	945	953	942
Sept. "	930	958	1,068	986	936	935	932	940	916	943	957	933
" Dec. "	940	968	1,074	990	944	946	942	942	937	947	963	942
1940 Mar. Qtr.	933	961	1,052	978	928	938	922	918	919	918	933	922
" June "	957	985	1,074	1,013	960	962	954	943	956	946	962	954

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 24.

Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series)—*continued.*

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27=1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	955	895	949	981*b*	936*c*	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1934 ..	727	694	766	807*b*	732*c*	730	767	840	795	745	796	770
„ 1935 ..	763	732	803	849*b*	754*c*	765	780	860	813	777	812	784
„ 1936 ..	791	761	846	880*b*	781*c*	795	798	874	864	804	838	803
„ 1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
„ 1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
„ 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
1939 Mar. Qtr.	884	841	922	985	928	892	907	965	1,005	923	981	913
„ June „	857	822	901	960	910	866	904	969	997	950	977	910
„ Sept. „	855	812	892	950	904	863	888	981	997	925	982	896
„ Dec. „	859	817	899	950	906	866	888	976	984	951	984	896
1940 Mar. Qtr.	874	831	918	961	921	882	881	951	965	895	961	887
„ June „	883	852	927	977	932	892	913	969	995	926	984	918

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
„ 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108	996	1,077	1,011	950	954
Year 1934 ..	807	987	849	846	817	823	786	765	793	795	899	784	783	786
„ 1935 ..	821	977	852	850	846	834	792	789	830	808	905	797	806	810
„ 1936 ..	853	998	898	866	910	866	827	806	847	831	898	824	825	828
„ 1937 ..	881	1,012	928	891	961	892	870	857	902	891	927	870	851	854
„ 1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	889	916	908	975	889	886	890
„ 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
1939 Mar. Qtr.	931	1,092	966	950	947	944	913	913	932	926	1,012	918	935	939
„ June „	950	1,095	982	977	955	962	921	916	939	936	1,024	924	925	929
„ Sept. „	944	1,098	979	974	952	957	916	908	940	930	1,017	919	920	924
„ Dec. „	926	1,084	960	966	933	939	941	917	951	940	1,018	937	927	930
1940 Mar. Qtr.	920	1,072	951	945	923	932	918	907	930	929	1,010	919	917	921
„ June „	956	1,089	981	975	941	966	935	932	945	945	1,024	938	944	947

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (b) Charters Towers.
(c) Warwick.

Housing (4 and 5 rooms)—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	758	..	..	..	..	..	608					
„ 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1934 ..	869	789	642	820	780	857	808	652	658	741	803	796
„ 1935 ..	891	839	644	860	777	881	850	666	688	812	843	838
„ 1936 ..	930	857	653	879	814	918	882	683	702	861	836	869
„ 1937 ..	965	830	669	873	816	947	909	699	720	836	859	894
„ 1938 ..	1,004	860	730	873	822	985	935	695	709	851	915	917
„ 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
1939 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	879	756	872	841	1,007	949	713	725	870	916	932
„ June „	1,033	889	757	870	839	1,014	954	713	725	875	916	936
„ Sept. „	1,039	894	768	871	845	1,019	957	722	735	878	924	940
„ Dec. „	1,040	897	773	871	846	1,021	960	708	739	880	929	942
1940 Mar. Qtr.	1,041	899	776	870	845	1,022	964	706	735	880	931	946
„ June „	1,041	899	778	872	845	1,022	967	704	734	883	933	949

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	629	547	470	528b	535c	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1934 ..	691	732	595	515b	625c	681	700	388	598	623	653	684
„ 1935 ..	720	746	596	530b	645c	707	736	393	625	626	663	719
„ 1936 ..	766	798	608	510b	622c	748	795	381	629	648	721	772
„ 1937 ..	822	840	728	44	575	810	832	371	659	685	737	808
„ 1938 ..	841	834	744	857	626	828	868	386	689	687	739	843
„ 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
1939 Mar. Qtr.	852	848	753	860	638	839	884	388	701	688	747	857
„ June „	853	836	753	861	638	839	888	388	704	685	748	861
„ Sept. „	855	851	753	861	642	841	890	388	715	685	753	863
„ Dec. „	855	851	754	861	642	841	891	388	719	687	762	865
1940 Mar. Qtr.	855	850	754	862	643	841	892	387	716	687	774	865
„ June „	857	850	755	861	643	843	892	387	716	690	774	866

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
„ 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	729	877	823
Year 1934 ..	794	901	781	775	925	805	865	709	657	682	706	814	810	798
„ 1935 ..	792	1,050	767	810	940	813	890	778	698	736	730	836	839	828
„ 1936 ..	844	1,174	794	886	1,010	872	908	811	750	726	755	858	879	866
„ 1937 ..	861	1,309	860	983	1,064	901	899	826	816	723	798	861	912	897
„ 1938 ..	872	1,319	879	994	1,055	911	913	838	830	756	788	875	942	925
„ 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	836	763	806	887	965	947
1939 Mar. Qtr.	878	1,317	883	1,003	1,058	916	920	847	831	757	803	882	959	941
„ June „	881	1,321	886	1,000	1,066	919	924	849	830	763	803	885	963	946
„ Sept. „	881	1,317	886	1,008	1,067	920	927	853	835	765	803	889	967	950
„ Dec. „	882	1,317	887	1,007	1,065	920	930	855	849	767	814	892	969	951
1940 Mar. Qtr.	883	1,314	888	1,005	1,065	921	932	855	850	767	814	893	971	953
„ June „	882	1,316	890	1,004	1,067	920	932	855	848	767	812	893	972	954

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (b) Charters Towers. (c) Warwick.

Food, Groceries and Housing Combined (4 and 5 rooms).—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B"(*d*) and "C" Series.)

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	866
Year 1934 ..	840	818	818	817	794	838	769	730	738	753	789	766
„ 1935 ..	858	853	832	835	808	857	808	760	766	802	826	805
„ 1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831
„ 1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	899	862	794	798	833	842	857
„ 1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895
„ 1939 ..	972	934	970	942	900	969	945	849	851	917	940	938
1939 Mar. Qtr.	974	934	1,000	946	900	971	948	845	853	915	934	941
„ June „	968	931	977	941	898	964	944	850	848	916	936	937
„ Sept. „	970	931	948	939	899	966	940	853	843	916	942	933
„ Dec. „	977	938	954	941	904	973	947	848	858	919	948	940
1940 Mar. Qtr.	973	935	942	934	893	968	936	833	845	901	930	929
„ June „	988	949	956	955	913	983	957	848	867	919	949	950

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	840	771	779	820*b*	794*c*	824	898	811	839	770	844	885
Year 1934 ..	713	705	705	703*b*	694*c*	712	742	680	725	701	746	739
„ 1935 ..	747	737	730	736*b*	716*c*	745	764	694	746	723	759	761
„ 1936 ..	781	774	757	741*b*	721*c*	777	796	689	775	745	793	791
„ 1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821
„ 1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855
„ 1939 ..	858	830	843	920	804	858	891	743	882	838	890	885
1939 Mar. Qtr.	870	842	854	934	813	869	896	738	884	830	887	889
„ June „	853	826	841	919	802	853	895	740	881	844	886	889
„ Sept. „	853	825	836	913	800	853	887	748	885	830	890	881
„ Dec. „	855	828	840	913	801	855	887	745	878	846	895	882
1940 Mar. Qtr.	865	836	852	920	811	864	883	729	865	812	886	877
„ June „	871	849	858	929	817	871	903	740	884	831	900	896

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	689	..	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..	644	..
„ 1921 ..	916	928	898	907	942	918	971	858	819	696	871	911	924	907
Year 1934 ..	802	955	825	820	855	816	814	766	745	754	830	794	792	790
„ 1935 ..	810	1,003	822	836	879	826	827	785	783	783	843	811	818	816
„ 1936 ..	849	1,064	858	873	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835	844	841
„ 1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	999	894	879	843	866	824	874	865	872	869
„ 1938 ..	887	1,152	911	945	974	909	891	867	880	846	900	882	906	902
„ 1939 ..	914	1,178	936	979	990	936	922	887	898	865	933	908	939	935
1939 Mar. Qtr.	908	1,177	931	968	988	931	914	885	890	858	929	902	942	938
„ June „	921	1,181	942	984	996	943	920	888	895	866	936	907	938	934
„ Sept. „	918	1,181	940	985	995	940	918	884	897	864	931	905	936	932
„ Dec. „	907	1,173	929	980	982	929	935	891	909	870	936	917	941	936
1940 Mar. Qtr.	903	1,166	924	966	976	926	922	885	897	864	931	907	936	931
„ June „	925	1,175	943	984	988	946	932	900	905	873	939	919	953	948

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24 (*b*) Charters Towers.
(*c*) Warwick. (*d*) The index-numbers in this table are the same as those of the "B" Series (p. 9).

Clothing.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(*Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.*)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,573	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1934 ..	746	811	696	935	797	753	802	840	929	784	921	807
„ 1935 ..	746	810	680	922	790	751	794	856	884	843	912	802
„ 1936 ..	778	809	753	878	811	782	791	845	816	834	863	795
„ 1937 ..	818	796	824	833	812	817	803	831	819	809	822	805
„ 1938 ..	833	810	833	848	824	831	820	843	832	833	831	822
„ 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833
1939 Mar. Qtr.	835	812	837	852	828	834	819	844	829	837	832	821
„ June „	841	817	850	860	838	840	822	844	830	841	836	824
„ Sept. „	841	817	851	863	837	840	823	844	831	839	836	824
„ Dec. „	854	847	861	869	858	854	862	873	875	866	864	863
1940 Mar. Qtr.	884	862	902	899	897	883	897	921	911	893	909	898
„ June „	923	921	952	933	925	924	959	965	966	949	948	959

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568*b*	1,519*c*	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Year 1934 ..	786	897	815	750*b*	840*c*	796	846	828	794	944	964	871
„ 1935 ..	772	818	824	761*b*	791*c*	779	853	810	803	937	927	852
„ 1936 ..	777	779	831	794*b*	767*c*	782	833	803	819	890	851	832
„ 1937 ..	794	805	826	812	806	799	821	804	811	818	814	820
„ 1938 ..	823	826	840	833	831	825	857	848	846	846	844	856
„ 1939 ..	840	838	856	855	852	843	863	852	854	852	844	862
1939 Mar. Qtr.	829	829	847	842	840	832	860	850	850	851	845	859
„ June „	833	831	847	845	846	835	861	850	852	848	841	860
„ Sept. „	834	831	847	845	846	836	861	849	854	849	842	860
„ Dec. „	865	860	882	886	877	868	869	858	859	858	847	868
1940 Mar. Qtr.	894	888	912	915	904	897	895	877	882	877	866	893
„ June „	930	921	948	945	931	932	934	910	909	910	899	932

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	754	..
„ 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513	1,246	1,290
Year 1934 ..	817	1,035	767	864	821	834	882	958	839	844	1,048	907	785	794
„ 1935 ..	825	1,056	775	911	839	843	903	938	813	827	987	910	783	790
„ 1936 ..	815	959	802	878	851	827	857	873	807	826	875	859	792	796
„ 1937 ..	806	832	819	828	827	809	821	823	820	832	820	822	811	811
„ 1938 ..	823	846	835	845	841	826	848	839	835	845	842	844	829	830
„ 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	853	854	841	841
1939 Mar. Qtr.	825	848	837	847	843	828	852	846	838	839	848	849	832	832
„ June „	825	850	836	846	842	828	854	848	841	839	851	851	836	836
„ Sept. „	836	859	846	849	849	838	852	848	839	839	850	850	836	837
„ Dec. „	840	863	848	852	854	842	867	869	855	859	864	867	858	859
1940 Mar. Qtr.	853	869	856	863	862	854	888	893	883	879	885	889	888	888
„ June „	913	954	924	931	923	917	940	949	930	921	923	941	936	936

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

Miscellaneous.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1934 ..	975	921	988	867	864	969	914	877	908	880	825	911
„ 1935 ..	976	927	964	868	867	970	922	880	922	873	851	918
„ 1936 ..	949	900	1,007	887	881	945	947	958	977	947	922	948
„ 1937 ..	939	895	1,061	901	902	937	978	1,006	1,011	995	953	980
„ 1938 ..	936	903	1,053	909	892	935	982	1,006	1,011	994	954	983
„ 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	938	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
1939 Mar. Qtr.	937	896	1,046	906	886	935	978	985	1,001	975	947	979
„ June „	939	899	1,048	908	887	937	974	988	1,003	977	949	975
„ Sept. „	939	899	1,048	908	887	937	974	992	1,003	979	950	975
„ Dec. „	943	909	1,050	910	893	942	983	995	1,010	987	958	984
1940 Mar. Qtr.	949	919	1,072	918	903	948	988	1,009	1,021	997	975	990
„ June „	985	950	1,105	942	937	984	1,006	1,019	1,031	1,007	978	1,007

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009*b*	988*c*	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Year 1934 ..	900	907	876	967*b*	891*c*	900	976	937	944	949	958	973
„ 1935 ..	904	909	877	1,015*b*	929*c*	905	973	941	921	937	968	969
„ 1936 ..	917	929	920	1,067*b*	993*c*	922	993	978	936	970	1,003	991
„ 1937 ..	941	988	969	1,000	1,007	952	1,022	981	995	1,013	1,015	1,020
„ 1938 ..	947	990	971	1,000	1,001	957	1,023	991	1,001	1,017	1,011	1,021
„ 1939 ..	955	983	969	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	1,019
1939 Mar. Qtr.	951	981	963	996	989	958	1,019	986	995	1,013	995	1,016
„ June „	955	989	968	995	993	962	1,020	988	998	1,014	997	1,018
„ Sept. „	955	979	969	995	992	962	1,020	987	997	1,015	990	1,017
„ Dec. „	960	982	977	999	993	966	1,027	994	1,006	1,024	993	1,025
1940 Mar. Qtr.	967	989	982	1,005	984	972	1,038	1,007	1,011	1,035	1,000	1,035
„ June „	978	1,002	996	1,023	1,000	984	1,049	1,013	1,028	1,050	1,011	1,047

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
„ 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952	1,010	1,009
Year 1934 ..	942	961	902	894	966	942	855	864	825	823	804	853	944	939
„ 1935 ..	927	975	925	909	972	931	856	864	793	831	824	855	946	941
„ 1936 ..	932	990	946	906	1,002	937	883	908	839	859	841	887	947	946
„ 1937 ..	946	971	953	903	1,058	950	939	947	869	876	854	933	960	961
„ 1938 ..	949	968	953	909	1,053	951	933	939	866	867	843	927	961	962
„ 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934	962	962
1939 Mar. Qtr.	952	972	946	910	1,055	955	929	934	867	876	872	924	960	960
„ June „	952	972	947	910	1,028	954	939	948	876	885	882	935	961	960
„ Sept. „	953	975	948	912	1,028	955	940	950	876	886	882	936	961	961
„ Dec. „	957	976	949	916	1,024	959	945	954	878	880	887	940	967	967
1940 Mar. Qtr.	967	984	952	924	1,028	968	958	960	892	887	905	951	973	974
„ June „	986	1,006	975	942	1,052	988	971	968	901	894	914	962	997	997

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

All Items of Household Expenditure.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Year 1934 ..	842	834	819	852	807	841	801	781	811	782	826	801
„ 1935 ..	852	856	819	860	814	852	824	803	820	824	850	824
„ 1936 ..	866	853	848	864	833	865	844	826	821	848	851	843
„ 1937 ..	889	849	893	867	842	886	868	839	840	855	856	866
„ 1938 ..	913	877	940	893	860	911	896	850	854	884	892	893
„ 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
1939 Mar. Qtr.	934	898	970	916	880	932	923	869	873	907	912	919
„ June „	932	898	959	915	880	929	921	872	870	909	914	917
„ Sept. „	933	897	943	914	881	930	918	875	868	909	918	915
„ Dec. „	943	910	949	917	890	940	932	879	887	917	928	928
1940 Mar. Qtr.	946	914	954	921	894	943	934	882	889	915	931	930
„ June „	970	941	980	946	918	968	963	903	916	939	951	959

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.				
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025b	994c	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
Year 1934 ..	762	785	759	759b	761c	764	806	758	778	800	832	804
„ 1935 ..	780	785	776	789b	769c	780	820	763	789	809	833	817
„ 1936 ..	804	802	802	810b	779c	803	839	765	813	818	843	835
„ 1937 ..	837	840	840	883	809	840	859	769	844	830	851	855
„ 1938 ..	852	843	853	902	831	854	888	786	868	849	868	883
„ 1939 ..	870	858	867	918	847	871	906	810	896	872	897	902
1939 Mar. Qtr.	874	863	871	923	849	875	908	806	895	867	896	904
„ June „	866	855	864	915	845	867	908	808	894	875	895	904
„ Sept. „	866	853	861	912	843	867	903	812	897	866	896	899
„ Dec. „	874	862	872	921	851	876	906	814	896	880	900	902
1940 Mar. Qtr.	887	874	887	932	860	888	912	811	894	866	901	907
„ June „	900	890	900	947	873	902	934	826	914	887	918	929

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	687	..
„ 1921	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	1,057	1,013	1,013
Year 1934 ..	830	975	825	843	866	842	837	828	780	787	876	831	817	816
„ 1935 ..	834	1,011	829	865	886	848	849	834	792	801	873	841	832	831
„ 1936 ..	856	1,027	860	880	933	870	860	840	814	809	850	850	850	848
„ 1937 ..	869	1,030	890	897	970	884	875	856	854	833	857	866	873	871
„ 1938 ..	882	1,048	900	914	957	897	887	872	865	848	875	879	897	894
„ 1939 ..	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898	920	917
1939 Mar. Qtr.	896	1,064	911	928	967	911	901	883	872	855	898	892	919	916
„ June „	904	1,067	918	937	966	918	907	888	877	861	905	897	917	915
„ Sept. „	904	1,069	919	939	966	918	905	886	878	860	902	896	916	914
„ Dec. „	899	1,065	913	938	959	914	919	895	889	867	908	908	926	923
1940 Mar. Qtr.	902	1,064	912	934	958	916	918	898	890	869	914	909	930	927
„ June „	932	1,092	943	963	983	945	938	921	907	886	929	929	954	951

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see p. 24. (b) Charters Towers. (c) Warwick.

Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.) All Items of Household Consumption.

Relative Cost of Each Group of Items.

(*Base : Weighted Average Cost of All Groups in each Town* = 1,000.)

Town.	1938.					1939.				
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.
New South Wales—										
Sydney	356	254	201	189	1,000	360	255	199	186	1,000
Newcastle	380	227	203	190	1,000	386	228	201	185	1,000
Broken Hill	418	180	195	207	1,000	418	184	195	203	1,000
Goulburn	377	226	209	188	1,000	390	220	206	184	1,000
Bathurst	376	221	211	192	1,000	383	221	210	186	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	359	251	200	190	1,000	363	252	198	187	1,000
Victoria—										
Melbourne	355	241	201	203	1,000	368	239	197	196	1,000
Ballarat	374	189	218	219	1,000	387	189	214	210	1,000
Bendigo	375	192	214	219	1,000	383	194	210	213	1,000
Geelong	362	223	207	208	1,000	375	222	204	199	1,000
Warrnambool	360	236	205	199	1,000	375	232	201	192	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	357	237	202	204	1,000	368	236	199	197	1,000
Queensland—										
Brisbane	354	228	212	206	1,000	357	227	213	203	1,000
Toowoomba	340	227	216	217	1,000	345	228	215	212	1,000
Rockhampton	371	201	217	211	1,000	375	201	218	206	1,000
Townsville	372	220	203	205	1,000	377	217	205	201	1,000
Bundaberg	383	174	220	223	1,000	387	175	221	217	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	357	224	212	207	1,000	361	222	213	204	1,000
South Australia—										
Adelaide	349	226	212	213	1,000	357	226	208	209	1,000
Kadina, etc.	417	113	237	233	1,000	432	111	231	226	1,000
Port Pirie	389	183	215	213	1,000	401	183	210	206	1,000
Mount Gambier ..	372	187	219	222	1,000	387	182	215	216	1,000
Peterborough	373	197	215	215	1,000	394	194	207	205	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	353	220	213	214	1,000	361	221	208	210	1,000
Western Australia—										
Perth, etc.	367	229	205	199	1,000	375	225	203	197	1,000
Kalgoorlie, etc. ..	361	291	177	171	1,000	369	286	176	169	1,000
Northam	374	226	204	196	1,000	383	224	202	191	1,000
Bunbury	362	251	203	184	1,000	372	248	200	180	1,000
Geraldton	348	255	193	204	1,000	353	255	194	198	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	366	235	203	196	1,000	374	233	200	193	1,000
Tasmania—										
Hobart	357	238	210	195	1,000	366	235	207	192	1,000
Launceston	367	222	211	200	1,000	370	222	211	197	1,000
Burnie	382	222	212	184	1,000	386	219	210	185	1,000
Devonport	385	206	219	190	1,000	390	205	216	189	1,000
Queenstown	402	208	212	178	1,000	406	206	207	181	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	364	230	210	196	1,000	371	228	208	193	1,000
Weighted Average for 30 Towns	**358**	**239**	**204**	**199**	**1,000**	**365**	**239**	**202**	**194**	**1,000**
Weighted Average 6 Capital Cities	**356**	**243**	**203**	**198**	**1,000**	**363**	**242**	**201**	**194**	**1,000**
Charters Towers (Q.) ..	395	136	222	247	1,000	395	152	215	238	1,000
Warwick (Q.)	367	176	226	231	1,000	371	185	220	224	1,000
Port Augusta (S.A.) ..	397	173	217	213	1,000	405	175	212	208	1,000

4. **Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency: Capital Cities, 1934 to 1940.**—In each part of the following table the average cost of the particular regimen in the six capital cities during the five-yearly period

1923–1927 has been equated to a base of 20 shillings. The figures measure the variations in the prices of—(i) food and groceries, (ii) housing (4 and 5 rooms), (iii) food, groceries, and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous household requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined.

Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency : Capital Cities ("C" Series).

(*Base of each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 20s. 0d.*)

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
	GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1934 ..	16 6	15 0	14 6	15 4	16 2	15 9	15 8
1935 ..	16 10	15 8	15 3	15 7	16 5	15 10	16 1
1936 ..	17 0	16 2	15 10	16 0	17 1	16 6	16 6
1937 ..	17 4	16 9	16 7	16 6	17 7	17 5	17 0
1938 ..	18 1	17 8	16 9	17 3	18 0	17 7	17 9
1939 ..	18 9	18 10	17 3	17 11	18 9	18 6	18 6
1939 Mar. Qtr.	18 11	19 0	17 8	18 2	18 7	18 3	18 8
„ June „	18 7	18 10	17 2	18 1	19 0	18 5	18 6
„ Sept. „	18 7	18 8	17 1	17 9	18 11	18 4	18 5
„ Dec. „	18 10	18 10	17 2	17 9	18 6	18 10	18 6
1940 Mar. „	18 8	18 5	17 6	17 7	18 5	18 4	18 4
„ June „	19 2	19 1	17 8	18 3	19 1	18 8	18 11
	GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).						
1934 ..	17 5	16 2	13 10	14 0	15 11	17 4	16 2
1935 ..	17 10	17 0	14 5	14 9	15 10	17 10	16 9
1936 ..	18 7	17 8	15 4	15 11	16 11	18 2	17 7
1937 ..	19 4	18 2	16 5	16 8	17 3	18 0	18 3
1938 ..	20 1	18 8	16 10	17 4	17 5	18 3	18 10
1939 ..	20 8	19 1	17 1	17 9	17 7	18 6	19 4
1939 Mar. Qtr.	20 6	19 0	17 0	17 8	17 7	18 5	19 2
„ June „	20 8	19 1	17 1	17 9	17 7	18 6	19 3
„ Sept. „	20 9	19 2	17 1	17 10	17 7	18 6	19 4
„ Dec. „	20 10	19 2	17 1	17 10	17 8	18 7	19 5
1940 Mar. „	20 10	19 3	17 1	17 10	17 8	18 8	19 5
„ June „	20 10	19 4	17 2	17 10	17 8	18 8	19 5
	GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.						
1934 ..	16 10	15 5	14 3	14 10	16 1	16 3	15 10
1935 ..	17 2	16 2	14 11	15 3	16 2	16 7	16 4
1936 ..	17 7	16 8	15 7	15 11	17 0	17 1	16 11
1937 ..	18 1	17 3	16 6	16 6	17 5	17 7	17 5
1938 ..	18 10	18 0	16 9	17 3	17 9	17 10	18 1
1939 ..	19 5	18 11	17 2	17 10	18 3	18 5	18 9
1939 Mar. Qtr.	19 6	19 0	17 5	17 11	18 2	18 3	18 10
„ June „	19 4	18 11	17 1	17 11	18 5	18 5	18 9
„ Sept. „	19 5	18 10	17 1	17 9	18 4	18 4	18 9
„ Dec. „	19 6	18 11	17 1	17 9	18 2	18 8	18 10
1940 Mar. „	19 6	18 9	17 4	17 8	18 1	18 5	18 9
„ June „	19 9	19 2	17 5	18 1	18 6	18 8	19 1

Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency: Capital Cities ("C" Series)— *continued.*

(*Base of each Group: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 20s. 0d.*)

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
			GROUP III.—CLOTHING.				
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1934 ..	14 11	16 1	15 9	16 11	16 4	17 8	15 8
1935 ..	14 11	15 11	15 5	17 1	16 6	18 1	15 8
1936 ..	15 7	15 10	15 6	16 8	16 4	17 2	15 10
1937 ..	16 4	16 1	15 11	16 5	16 1	16 5	16 3
1938 ..	16 8	16 5	16 6	17 2	16 6	17 0	16 7
1939 ..	16 10	16 8	16 10	17 3	16 8	17 1	16 10
1939 Mar. Qtr.	16 8	16 5	16 7	17 2	16 6	17 0	16 8
„ June „	16 10	16 5	16 8	17 3	16 6	17 1	16 9
„ Sept. „	16 10	16 6	16 8	17 3	16 9	17 0	16 9
„ Dec. „	17 1	17 3	17 4	17 5	16 10	17 4	17 2
1940 Mar. „	17 8	17 11	17 11	17 11	17 1	17 9	17 9
„ June „	18 6	19 2	18 7	18 8	18 3	18 10	18 9
			GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
1934 ..	19 6	18 3	18 0	19 6	18 10	17 1	18 11
1935 ..	19 6	18 5	18 1	19 6	18 6	17 1	18 11
1936 ..	19 0	18 11	18 4	19 10	18 8	17 8	18 11
1937 ..	18 9	19 7	18 10	20 5	18 11	18 9	19 2
1938 ..	18 9	19 8	18 11	20 6	19 0	18 8	19 3
1939 ..	18 10	19 6	19 1	20 5	19 1	18 9	19 3
1939 Mar. Qtr.	18 9	19 7	19 0	20 5	19 0	18 7	19 2
„ June „	18 9	19 6	19 1	20 5	19 0	18 9	19 3
„ Sept. „	18 9	19 6	19 1	20 5	19 1	18 10	19 3
„ Dec. „	18 10	19 8	19 2	20 6	19 2	18 11	19 4
1940 Mar. „	19 0	19 9	19 4	20 9	19 4	19 2	19 6
„ June „	19 8	20 1	19 7	21 0	19 9	19 5	19 11
			GROUPS I.–IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.				
1934 ..	16 10	16 0	15 3	16 1	16 7	16 9	16 4
1935 ..	17 1	16 6	15 7	16 5	16 8	17 0	16 8
1936 ..	17 4	16 11	16 1	16 9	17 1	17 2	17 0
1937 ..	17 9	17 4	16 9	17 2	17 5	17 6	17 6
1938 ..	18 3	17 11	17 0	17 9	17 8	17 9	17 11
1939 ..	18 9	18 6	17 5	18 1	18 0	18 2	18 5
1939 Mar. Qtr.	18 8	18 6	17 6	18 2	17 11	18 0	18 5
„ June „	18 8	18 5	17 4	18 2	18 1	18 2	18 4
„ Sept. „	18 8	18 4	17 4	18 1	18 1	18 1	18 4
„ Dec. „	18 10	18 8	17 6	18 1	18 0	18 5	18 6
1940 Mar. „	18 11	18 8	17 9	18 3	18 0	18 4	18 7
„ June „	19 5	19 3	18 0	18 8	18 8	18 9	19 1

Retail Price Index-Numbers : Capital Cities ("C" Series). All Items of Household Consumption.

(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
„ 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
„ 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
„ 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
„ 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
„ 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
„ 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).							
Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
„ 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
„ 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
„ 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
„ 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
„ 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
„ 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851
GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
„ 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
„ 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
„ 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
„ 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
„ 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
„ 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,082
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
„ 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
„ 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
„ 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
„ 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
„ 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
„ 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
„ 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
„ 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
„ 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	881
„ 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
„ 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
„ 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194
GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.							
Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
„ 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
„ 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
„ 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
„ 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
„ 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
„ 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166

§ 5. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

1. **General.**—To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding sections, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year relates at present, therefore, to 200 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pages 26 to 33), and details respecting succeeding investigations are incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

In issues of these publications prior to No. 28 of 1937, information was given regarding movements in the rents of 4-roomed and 5-roomed houses. While the index-numbers were useful in a general way as a measure of changes in rents in any one town from time to time, there has been an increasing tendency to regard them as an adequate measure of the relative absolute levels of rents in different towns at any given date. In order to prevent such a misuse of the figures, and because of increasing doubts as to the ability of the Bureau, except at prohibitive cost, to ensure that returns of rents from all these towns shall be based on continuously representative samples, it has reluctantly been decided to limit the information collected to the prices of food and groceries. Should any industrial tribunal desire further information on house rentals in any of these towns, the Bureau will be prepared to consider requests for special investigations by its staff of field officers.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers : 200 Towns, 1935 to 1939.**—In the following table the base of the index-numbers has been changed from that used in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 28 of 1937. The new base is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in the period 1923–27.

Retail Price Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries.

(*Base: Weighted average in Six Capital Cities*, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
New South Wales—					
Albury	803	857	864	930	999
Armidale	821	811	853	890	938
Ballina	812	853	852	930	978
Bathurst*	842	838	861	914	947
Bega	851	863	875	937	984
Berry	874	873	880	956	964
Blackheath	882	920	927	977	991
Bourke	873	901	913	1,002	1,017
Bowral	848	861	887	954	976
Broken Hill*	929	977	1,036	1,128	1,079

* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series) : Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
New South Wales—*contd.*					
Casino	855	900	900	979	974
Cessnock	846	849	858	924	957
Cobar	1,012	1,031	1,038	1,109	1,057
Cooma	895	879	883	990	1,008
Coonamble	918	961	921	990	960
Cootamundra ..	824	849	829	944	939
Corrimal	834	876	884	920	961
Cowra	844	860	873	953	963
Cronulla	859	876	886	901	967
Deniliquin	883	907	967	995	994
Dubbo	842	848	863	892	929
Forbes	883	862	863	918	924
Gilgandra	873	864	881	938	945
Glen Innes	807	814	819	873	886
Goulburn*	846	855	888	952	996
Grafton	824	854	888	913	931
Grenfell	830	837	841	923	945
Griffith	913	940	936	983	978
Gulgong	821	855	839	883	985
Gunnedah	829	842	833	870	912
Hay	903	931	906	1,010	982
Inverell	848	802	831	878	908
Junee	828	876	914	922	993
Katoomba	867	885	915	970	983
Kempsey	803	811	836	889	953
Kiama	887	904	911	965	1,005
Kurri Kurri	808	839	838	919	945
Leeton	886	894	926	978	1,024
Lismore	834	886	918	994	990
Lithgow*	859	809	873	961	947
Maitland	833	832	835	906	930
Moree	886	904	894	956	997
Moss Vale	844	849	895	922	947
Mudgee	819	840	860	922	995
Narrabri	877	894	901	954	1,011
Narrandera	864	898	896	977	982
Newcastle*	880	869	882	940	969
Nowra	901	899	887	983	959
Orange	817	812	815	918	950
Parkes	843	859	903	964	961
Penrith	806	818	825	868	914
Port Kembla ..	866	908	905	963	996
Portland	862	857	877	903	941
Queanbeyan	884	905	953	1,000	1,022
Quirindi	864	866	890	909	957
Richmond	826	816	827	826	876
Scone	836	861	871	893	979
Singleton	826	813	830	900	917
Sydney*	851	863	877	909	943
Tamworth	806	806	829	895	923

* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
New South Wales—*contd.*					
Taree	848	864	889	922	978
Temora	804	823	862	961	1,024
Tenterfield	831	865	864	936	919
Tumut	832	837	842	947	967
Ulmarra	852	892	885	969	921
Wagga Wagga ..	835	850	884	935	964
Walcha	927	845	866	910	927
Wellington	818	828	829	851	900
Weston	818	835	841	913	962
Windsor	850	851	864	892	881
Wollongong	829	853	878	955	978
Wyalong	862	870	895	966	998
Yass	850	837	887	978	956
Young	855	843	867	948	947
Weighted Average for State (74 Towns) ..	852	863	878	919	950
Victoria—					
Ararat	855	918	910	942	985
Bacchus Marsh ..	820	860	887	920	968
Bairnsdale	862	880	879	912	991
Ballarat*	818	872	860	886	963
Beechworth	828	885	890	969	970
Benalla	850	880	905	945	1,003
Bendigo*	812	856	853	904	952
Camperdown	849	863	868	932	996
Casterton	845	888	873	957	1,005
Castlemaine	828	845	848	884	949
Colac	817	842	850	907	972
Creswick	838	859	863	882	938
Daylesford	813	843	865	922	951
Dunolly	835	889	872	909	948
Echuca	824	846	857	921	993
Euroa	845	875	878	975	996
Geelong*	796	833	857	914	973
Hamilton	855	911	885	958	1,009
Healesville	831	892	917	947	995
Horsham	873	926	916	928	1,038
Kerang	869	895	927	941	998
Koroit	828	836	840	896	964
Korumburra	783	835	859	895	994
Kyneton	785	851	870	921	971
Lilydale	845	884	881	915	999
Maffra	825	901	865	925	1,008
Maldon	848	876	888	953	1,009
Maryborough	811	888	891	978	990
Melbourne*	797	833	848	896	958
Mildura	903	938	977	992	991
Morwell	842	858	887	922	977
Nhill	913	956	933	967	961
Orbost	870	912	919	968	1,053
Portland	863	863	862	903	1,008
Port Fairy	820	862	840	911	998

* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series) : Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
Victoria—*continued.*					
St. Arnaud	875	930	930	997	1,040
Sale	827	895	890	958	1,004
Seymour	880	901	937	991	1,032
Shepparton	819	864	880	954	1,002
Stawell	911	949	934	1,007	1,034
Swan Hill	874	918	924	969	996
Terang	875	863	885	924	968
Traralgon	816	839	834	878	954
Wangaratta	827	880	879	955	1,016
Warracknabeal ..	828	858	881	936	992
Warragul	820	827	845	905	965
Warrnambool* ..	785	844	834	910	974
Wonthaggi	804	895	913	946	983
Weighted Average for State (48 Towns) ..	803	841	854	902	963
Queensland—					
Ayr	825	841	867	913	940
Barcaldine	938	959	959	993	1,028
Bowen	885	902	902	961	995
Brisbane*	780	820	835	824	854
Bundaberg*	803	874	873	875	904
Cairns	887	915	914	949	977
Charleville	949	989	969	970	992
Charters Towers* ..	876	889	887	933	956
Chillagoe	900	915	946	944	1,007
Cloncurry	1,030	1,026	1,031	1,050	1,069
Cooktown	963	986	989	1,003	1,057
Cunnamulla	927	938	921	951	970
Dalby	807	870	836	835	896
Gayndah	851	907	867	895	926
Gladstone	827	871	870	903	920
Goondiwindi	889	914	868	893	916
Gympie	857	849	840	859	901
Hughenden	919	931	925	989	1,032
Innisfail	943	974	995	978	984
Ipswich	785	820	825	824	857
Longreach	978	990	993	1,009	1,040
Mackay	872	898	895	916	952
Maryborough ..	794	828	835	849	887
Mount Morgan ..	855	891	880	902	911
Nambour	834	844	863	883	892
Rockhampton* ..	839	864	877	863	885
Roma	877	885	870	921	952
Stanthorpe	803	817	830	898	911
Toowoomba*	751	800	789	781	815
Townsville*	887	904	921	933	948
Warwick*	792	820	795	822	858
Winton	931	951	963	1,021	1,021
Weighted Average for State (32 Towns) ..	806	841	850	849	879

* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
South Australia—					
Adelaide*	784	804	833	860	883
Burra (Kooringa) ..	868	879	899	911	949
Freeling	804	823	845	856	883
Gawler	772	814	827	840	872
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo*	868	890	897	915	981
Kapunda	793	812	836	848	892
Millicent	805	820	918	875	951
Mount Gambier* ..	802	815	847	907	976
Murray Bridge ..	763	776	810	839	877
Peterborough* ..	816	851	884	910	984
Port Augusta* ..	892	926	945	949	996
Port Pirie*	811	896	915	950	986
Quorn	848	841	853	881	943
Renmark	920	919	906	931	988
Victor Harbour ..	815	839	852	857	900
Weighted Average for State (15 Towns) ..	791	813	841	867	895
Western Australia—					
Albany	884	896	892	911	947
Beverley	890	918	963	956	972
Bridgetown	930	955	973	971	1,002
Broome	1,142	1,180	1,181	1,184	1,211
Bunbury*	845	873	896	931	961
Carnarvon	1,032	1,082	1,127	1,128	1,143
Collie	855	901	874	894	945
Geraldton*	840	960	924	901	926
Greenbushes	946	960	937	965	984
Kalgoorlie and Boulder*	981	1,006	1,002	1,056	1,076
Katanning	829	884	872	904	930
Leonora and Gwalia ..	1,094	1,140	1,168	1,172	1,193
Meekatharra	1,088	1,143	1,164	1,124	1,153
Narrogin	863	910	884	918	968
Northam*	850	910	905	931	954
Perth and Fremantle* ..	813	863	866	888	919
Wagin	856	924	870	908	959
York	859	848	867	922	946
Weighted Average for State (18 Towns) ..	835	882	884	907	937
Tasmania—					
Beaconsfield	818	841	830	912	879
Burnie*	837	883	906	923	961
Campbelltown ..	860	878	872	904	914
Deloraine	787	795	824	854	852
Devonport*	824	873	895	936	938
Franklin	896	868	905	911	969
Hobart*	797	874	889	891	944
Launceston*	793	844	870	908	921
New Norfolk	830	909	891	892	959
Queenstown*	900	920	922	1,000	1,018

* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.	1939. November.
Tasmania—*continued.*					
Scottsdale	780	814	829	853	901
Ulverstone	812	888	867	889	925
Zeehan	943	981	983	1,001	1,026
Weighted Average for State (13 Towns) ..	805	867	884	903	938
Australian Capital Territory (*a*)—					
Canberra*	931	949	965	1,026	1,040
Weighted Averages—					
Australia (200 Towns) ..	825	851	865	906	939
Thirty Towns	820	847	862	895	935
Six Capitals	817	843	859	890	932

* Information also available monthly for this town. (*a*) Not included in Weighted Averages.

§ 6. Publication of Prices and Price Index-Numbers.

The results of inquiries into price movements are available in the following publications :—

(i) **Monthly.**—A mimeographed statement is published each month giving index-numbers for Food and Groceries. The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) **Quarterly.**—A mimeographed statement is issued each quarter giving the "C" Series index-numbers. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items comprising the Food and Groceries regimen, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. The weighted average rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) **Annual.**—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over the past five years, and the monthly and quarterly results for the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and grocery, and average house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published in the Labour Report.

§ 7. Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920.

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage is a valuable source of reference for information on retail prices during the years 1914 to 1920. It was also largely responsible for the extension of the prices investigations of the Bureau from food, groceries and housing only to all items of household consumption. The direct use of the Commission's data

made in the " All Items " index has already been referred to in earlier sections of this chapter. The Commission was appointed in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

(i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.

(ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.

(iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (*a*) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(*a*) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 6d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that " a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)." After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The Commission was concerned principally with ascertaining variations in the cost of an assumed regimen, which is described in the Report as the "Indicator List". It appeared, however, that the usefulness of the investigations of this Bureau would have been somewhat impaired had they been limited in the manner suggested by the Commission. It was decided, therefore, to apply to a more detailed inquiry the methods of index-number construction already used in the investigations into variations in the cost of food, groceries and housing.

It was decided to adopt for food, groceries and housing the commodities, methods and weighting already in use, which conformed very closely with those given in the "Indicator List" of the Commission. With regard to housing, the Commission adopted a certain type of 5-roomed house as its standard in determining the amount allowed for house rent. The figures used by this Bureau are the rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses, and are not confined to any particular type, but they fairly represent variations in the rent for the type of house described by the Commission.

Previous inquiries by this Bureau had been confined to food, groceries and housing. It became necessary, therefore, to investigate the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items. The results of these investigations are set out in earlier sections of this chapter.

§ 8. Changes in the Regimen.

Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications. These are briefly explained in the following paragraphs.

(i) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen for food and groceries was originally introduced in 1912, and the first revision was made in the September quarter of 1932. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(ii) *Housing.*—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally he rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" Series Index from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "All Items" Index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" series index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" series index.

Since the December quarter of 1936, following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians, the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in certain towns have been collected and tabulated on a somewhat different basis from that previously used. The returns in the twelve more important cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, on the basis of which variations from a pre-determinated standard are measured. This standard, the change in which has affected the index-numbers only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height, was determined by means of a special investigation of the 1933 Census data relating to rentals of all 4 and 5-roomed wood and brick houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary-earners. This method not being generally

* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.

applicable to the circumstances of small country towns, on account of the greater diversity of average " quality " of houses, the level of rents in these towns has been determined from a sample of houses selected by house-agents in accordance with definite standards laid down. The variations in rentals from this standard are measured in the same manner as described above for the twelve more important cities and towns.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in the March quarter of 1935. Details of the original regimen were never published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

(iv) The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27.

This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen were made with a view to improving the index-numbers as measures of price variations. They comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations ; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use ; the adjustment of the mass-unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits ; and the re-adjustment of the population weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in all places. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (see paragraph (ii) above).

(v) Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (see Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paragraphs 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price-level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

While this involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the Group index-

* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.

numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the following considerations should be kept in mind :—

Food and groceries.—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to the June quarter of 1936. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

Rent.—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of " All Houses ", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to the June quarter of 1936. In the September quarter, 1936, a change was made in the weighting system which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the index-numbers for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In the December quarter of 1936 the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with index-numbers of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter.

Clothing and Miscellaneous.—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

§ 9. Retail Price Index-Numbers and Wage Variations.

In view of the fact that several " series " of retail price index-numbers are still associated with the variation of wages, the following short explanation of their significance is given.

It is desirable again to emphasize the fact that the retail price index-numbers compiled by the Bureau are designed to measure the *variations* in the cost of the definite regimen of commodities and services covered by each of the series. The use made of them by wage-fixing tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wage-rates is entirely the responsibility of the tribunals concerned, and not of the Bureau, although the Bureau fully realizes the great importance of the use to which these indexes are put in this connexion, and takes every care to make them as accurate as possible.

* The tabulation of the "A" Series Index for which these rents were used was discontinued after the issue for June quarter, 1938.

(i) " *A* " *Series.*—The " A " series of indexes cover the items food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to the June quarter of 1938, after which it was discontinued.

This is the series which the Commonwealth Arbitration Court adopted in 1913 to determine the relative basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the " Harvester " Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the " normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." This series has had very little application since May, 1933, as the result of the adoption by the Court successively of the " D " series at that date, the " C " series in May, 1934, and the " Court " series in July, 1937.

(ii) " *B* " *Series.*—The " B " series covers the items food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the " A " Series, but up to date has not been used in connexion with the fixation or adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 9 to 13 of this Report.

(iii) " *C* " *Series.*—The " C " series covers all items of household expenditure, viz., food and groceries ; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ; clothing (man, wife and three children) ; household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000).

This series was introduced as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920, and the regimen adopted was practically that of the " Indicator " Lists of the Commission. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March quarter, 1925 to date.

The series was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court in May, 1933, when that Court introduced the " D " series of indexes (for explanation of which see next page). In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted the " C " series as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Commonwealth Court adopted this index as the basis of the " Court " series for the adjustment of the " needs " portion of the Court's new basic wage (see next page). The Court is, of course, quite free to alter the basis of the " Court " series at any time it thinks fit.

This series, covering as it does a far wider range of commodities, displays a different relationship between the towns from that shown in the preceding series ("A" and "B"). The series is published on pages 14 to 24 of this Report.

(iv) *The "Court" Series.*—The "Court" series of index-numbers was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. It is at present based on the Commonwealth Statistician's "C" series index, and is obtained as follows:—The "C" series index-number for any town for the quarter in question is multiplied by .081, and the first three figures on the left of the product are taken as the corresponding number in the "Court" series. This number itself states in whole and decimal figures the number of shillings with current purchasing power equivalent to that of 81s. when the "C" series index-number is 1,000. The base of the series is, therefore, the weighted average of the six capital cities, 1923–27 = 81s. The judgment provides that the nearest whole number of shillings (a decimal of .5 or over being regarded as a whole number) shall be taken as the "needs" basic wage, to which will be added the relevant fixed "prosperity loadings" granted by the Court. The "Court" series entirely supersedes the "C" series for all wage adjustments decreed by the Commonwealth Court. A set of index-numbers under this series is reproduced in Appendix III. of this Report.

(v) *"D" Series.*—The "D" series is a combination of the "A" and "C" series, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. "cut" imposed by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933, and was devised in order to counteract the excessive drop in wages occasioned by the "A" series index after 1929.

The series has for its base the "A" series index for each town for the December quarter of 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "C" index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D" index for each town from the December quarter of 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "C" index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "A" series for the December quarter of 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" series and the "C" series index for each town since that quarter.

This series has been superseded by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" series. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(vi) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 3. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and is still employed for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel.

(vii) *The "200 Towns" Series.*—This series is tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936 it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation has been limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by Industrial Tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. The index-numbers will be found on pages 25 to 30.

(viii) *Relative Merits of Series.*—The relative merits of the various series of index-numbers have been much discussed. Prices of all commodities do not change simultaneously nor to the same degree. Consequently, over short periods there may be differences of some magnitude between the results ascertained from the different series, but over longer periods these differences tend to be much reduced.

Thus, taking the movement of the following retail price indexes for the six capital cities over the two periods 1911 to 1939 and 1929 to 1939, as disclosed by the table in Appendix VII. of this Report, the changes are substantially of the same order :—

	Increase per cent., 1911–1939.	Decrease per cent., 1929–1939.
Food and Groceries only	66	11
Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses	58	10
Food Groceries and Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses ("B" Series)	63	11
"All Items" of Household Expenditure ("C" Series)	53*	11

* Taken back to 1911 from base 1914 by means of "A" Series Index.

(ix) For information in regard to the different bases upon which the above index-numbers have been compiled, see page 7.

§ 10. International Comparisons: Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices for (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only. For the countries included, the prices for the year 1929 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken chiefly from the League of Nations *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and the International Labour Office *Year Book of Labour Statistics*, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are obviously not comparable horizontally.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries.

(*Base: Year* 1929 = 100.)

(I) COST OF LIVING.*

Period.	United Kingdom.	Belgium.	China.	Denmark.	Finland.	France.	Germany.	Italy.	Japan.	Netherlands.
Number of Towns and Localities.	68–509	59	Shanghai.	100	21	45 (*a*)	72	50	Tokio.	Amsterdam.
1932	88	84	110	90	84	91	78	83	75	84
1933	85	83	99	92	82	87	77	80	80	83
1934	86	79	98	96	80	83	79	76	82	83
1935	87	80	99	99	81	78	80	77	84	81
1936	89	85	105	101	82	86	81	83	88	79
1937	94	92	122	104	86	102	81	91	96	82
1938	95	94	139	106	88	117	82	98	110	83
1939	96	93	182	109	90	..	82	..	123	83
1939—										
March Qtr. ..	94	94	139	106	89	122	82	99	117	82
June ,, ..	94	91	149	106	88	123	82	102	122	81
Sept. ,, ..	97	91	194	110	88	..	83	..	124	82
Dec. ,, ..	105	96	247	118	93	..	82	..	130	86
1940—										
March Qtr. ..	109	100	318	128	98	..	83	..	138	88

Period.	Norway.	Poland.	Sweden.	Switzerland.	United States.	Australia.	British India.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.
Number of Towns and Localities.	31	Warsaw.	49	34	51–174	30	Bombay. (*b*)	60	25	9
1932	90	74	92	86	79	81	..	82	84	90
1933	89	67	91	81	76	78	..	79	79	88
1934	89	62	91	80	79	80	..	79	81	87
1935	91	60	92	80	81	81	100	80	83	88
1936	93	58	93	81	85	83	101	81	86	88
1937	100	62	95	85	88	85	106	83	92	91
1938	103	61	98	85	86	87	106	84	95	94
1939	105	..	101	86	85	89	106	84	98	94
1939—										
March Qtr. ..	102	60	99	85	85	89	104	83	96	94
June ,, ..	103	61	99	85	85	89	103	83	98	94
Sept. ,, ..	104	..	101	85	85	89	105	84	99	93
Dec. ,, ..	106	..	105	88	86	89	110	85	101	94
1940—										
March Qtr. ..	113	..	109	90	85	90	112	85	105	96

* With the following exception the index-numbers in the above table are based on the cost of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items:—Japan, exclusive of housing. (*a*) Base: year 1930 = 100. (*b*) Base: year 1933–34 = 100.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries—*continued.*

(*Base: Year* 1929 = 100.)

(ii) PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

Period.	United Kingdom.	Belgium.	Denmark.	Finland.	France.	Germany.	Ireland.	Italy.	Japan.	Netherlands.
Number of Towns and Localities.	68–509	59	100	36	Paris.	72	105	Milan.	Tokio.	Amsterdam.
1927	104	95	103	..	92	98	101	98	104	100
1928	102	95	102	..	92	98	99	98	100	103
1929	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1930	94	96	92	..	104	94	95	94	85	93
1931	85	81	79	..	105	84	87	82	74	84
1932	82	69	76	..	94	74	83	78	78	74
1933	78	69	79	..	92	73	78	73	79	74
1934	79	65	85	..	91	76	80	70	81	76
1935	81	67	91	..	83	77	83	72	84	73
1936	84	73	92	..	90	79	87	77	91	74
1937	90	80	95	87	110	79	92	85	95	78
1938	92	82	98	88	126	78	94	92	102	80
1939	92	80	..	91	..	79	97	..	..	80

Period.	Norway	Poland.	Sweden.	Switzerland.	United States.	Australia.	British India.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.
Number of Towns and Localities.	31	Warsaw.	49	34	51	30	Bombay. (*a*)	60	25	9
1927	110	105	101	101	102	96	..	97	97	103
1928	106	103	103	101	98	95	..	98	99	102
1929	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	..	**100**	**100**	**100**
1930	96	86	93	97	92	90	..	98	96	96
1931	88	76	86	90	75	79	..	77	83	91
1932	85	67	83	80	63	77	..	64	77	83
1933	83	60	81	75	64	72	100	63	72	86
1934	84	54	81	74	71	75	101	69	76	90
1935	87	51	85	73	76	77	103	70	82	88
1936	91	50	89	77	78	79	107	73	86	88
1937	100	56	92	83	81	82	114	77	94	89
1938	104	54	95	83	75	85	113	77	98	93
1939	106	..	99	85	84	89	114	75	104	93

(*a*) Base 1933=100.

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—The data on which this chapter is based relate almost entirely to wholesale prices in Melbourne. An index of Sydney wholesale prices is compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and published in the *Year Book* and the *Monthly Summary of Business Statistics* of that State.

The index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines since that year. The items included in the (old) Melbourne wholesale price index comprise chiefly basic materials which in the form of raw material, food, or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The purpose of the index, therefore, is to measure the changes in the prices of these particular materials rather than the changes in prices generally. As Australia does not, to any extent, manufacture from imported raw materials commodities for export, the local consumption appears to give the most appropriate weighting. Any lack of uniformity in the variations of the index-numbers for these wholesale prices and for retail prices would indicate broadly changes in the relation of manufacturing and distributing charges to the cost of basic materials.

The scope of this wholesale price index can best be understood by an examination of the list of commodities included which is given on page 41. This list is, to a large extent, comparable with that used in the compilation of the *Economist* and *Statist* index-numbers for Great Britain, but differs largely from that used for the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or Canada (Department of Labour).

2. **The Grouping of the Commodities.**—The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 41. The descriptions of the groups are given in the following tables with the proportional cost of each group for the year 1939. These proportions may be used with fair accuracy as "weights" to combine any group index-numbers at the present time, but would give unsatisfactory results if used for a time when prices were relatively much different.

Groups of Commodities.

Group.	Description.	Percentage of Aggregate Cost (1939).
I.	"Metals and Coal"	15
II.	"Wool, Cotton", also jute, leather, &c. ..	11
III.	"Agricultural Produce"	31
IV.	"Dairy Produce"	9
V.	"Groceries"	16
VI.	"Meat"	10
VII.	"Building materials" (mostly timber) ..	7
VIII.	"Chemicals" (excluding fertilizers) ..	1

It will be noticed that the group "Chemicals" is practically negligible.

The index relates chiefly to basic materials, but a certain proportion of Australian manufacturing costs enters into all groups. The amount is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Wool, Cotton (II.), and greater in others, but the difference is not sufficient to justify any inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small to warrant deductions of this nature from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Wool, Cotton (II.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index: Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units".

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I. (Metals and Coal).			
Iron—			
Pig ..	Mixed Nos.	Ton	6½
Rod and Bar	Stafford	,,	3½
Angle ..	,,	,,	3½
Plate ..	,,	,,	3
Hoop ..	,,	,,	½
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	,,	5
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8	Ton	6
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	Box	60
Zinc, sheet ..	..	Ton	1
Lead, sheet ..	..	,,	¾
,, pipes ..	..	,,	½
Copper, sheet ..	..	lb.	2,000
Quicksilver ..	..	,,	12
Coal	Newcastle, on wharf	Ton	600
GROUP II. (Wool, Cotton, also Jute, Leather, &c.)			
Branbags ..	..	Doz.	110
Cornsacks ..	..	,,	250
Woolpacks ..	..	Each	200
Leather—			
Chrome Box Hide	..	ft.	1,200
Rough Tanned —Split	..	lb.	600
Sole Leather— Factory Sides	..	,,	600
Cotton ..	Raw ..	,,	24,000
Wool ..	Greasy ..	,,	12,200
Twine ..	Reaper and Binder	,,	150
Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	Ton	1¾

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index: Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units"—*continued.*

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP III. (Agricultural Produce).			
Wheat ..	..	Bus.	500
Flour ..	..	Ton	48
Bran ..	..	,,	14
Pollard ..	..	,,	14
Oats ..	Milling ..	Bus.	1,200
Oatmeal ..	Colonial	Ton	1½
Barley ..	English	Bus.	150
,, ..	Cape ..	,,	100
Maize ..	..	,,	1,000
Hay ..	Best Mngr.	Ton	135
Chaff ..	Prime ..	,,	135
Straw ..	Victorian	,,	25
Peas ..	..	Bus.	55
Potatoes ..	..	Ton	40
Malt ..	Victorian	Bus.	140
Onions ..	..	Ton	3
GROUP IV. (Dairy Produce).			
Ham ..	..	lb.	800
Bacon ..	..	,,	3,200
Cheese ..	..	,,	1,500
Butter ..	Best Fresh	,,	9,500
Lard ..	Bulk ..	,,	200
Eggs ..	Ordinary	Doz.	1,800
Honey ..	..	lb.	600
Beeswax ..	..	,,	40
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	Doz. lb.	160
GROUP V. (Groceries).			
Currants ..	..	lb.	1,400
Raisins ..	Sultanas	,,	1,400
Herrings ..	1-lb. fresh	Doz. 1-lb. tins	50
Salmon ..	1-lb. tall Alaska	,,	50
Sardines ..	Halves	Doz. halves	100
Tea	..	lb.	3,000
Coffee ..	Plantation	,,	200
Cocoa ..	McKenzie's	,,	100
Sugar ..	No. 1A	Ton	22
Macaroni ..	..	lb.	200
Tapioca ..	..	cwt.	7
Rice ..	..	Ton	2
Salt	Australian fine	,,	7
Salt	Rock ..	,,	1
Mustard ..	Coleman's	Doz. 1-lb. tins	6

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP V.—*continued.* (Groceries).			
Starch ..	Coleman's White	lb.	100
Blue	Keen's	,,	50
Matches ..	Australian Safety	Gross	90
Candles ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Tobacco ..	..	,,	1,300
Kerosene ..	..	Gall.	1,700
GROUP VI. (Meat).			
Beef ..	Average quality	100 lb.	390
Mutton ..	,,	lb.	33,000
Lamb ..	,,	,,	5,600
Veal ..	,,	,,	2,000
Pork ..	,,	,,	3,700
GROUP VII. (Building Materials).			
Timber—	Flooring— 6 x 1½	100 ft. lin.	30
	6 x ¾	,,	30
	6 x ¾	,,	30
	6 x ½	,,	30
	Weather-boards	,,	200
	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	20
	Shelving	,,	10
Cement ..	Portland	Cask	30
White Lead ..	..	Ton	¼
Slates ..	Welsh 20 x 10	1,000	½
GROUP VIII. (Chemicals).			
Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
Bi-Carbonate of Soda	..	Ton	½
Saltpetre ..	Refined	,,	1–20
Sulphur ..	..	,,	¼
Caustic Soda ..	..	cwt.	⅛
Alum ..	Lump ..	Ton	¼
Potassium Cyanide	..	lb.	570

3. **Index Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table :—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1940.

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	**1,538**
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	**1,229**
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	**1,121**
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	**945**
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	**974**
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	**1,051**
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	**1,049**
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	**890**
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	801	859	**910**
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	**948**
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	**1,021**
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	**1,115**
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	**993**
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	969	1,100	999	1,008	996	898	**1,003**
1911 ..	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	**1,170**
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	**1,088**
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	**1,149**
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	**1,604**
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	**1,504**
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	**1,662**
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	**1,934**
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	**2,055**
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	**2,480**
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	**1,903**
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	**1,758**
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	**1,944**
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	**1,885**
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	**1,844**
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	**1,832**
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	**1,817**
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	**1,792**
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	**1,803**
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	**1,596**
1931 ..	1,826	1,039	1,121	1,399	1,794	1,508	2,025	2,166	**1,428**
1932 ..	1,736	1,000	1,230	1,303	1,767	1,348	2,043	2,127	**1,411**
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,195	1,714	1,487	2,061	2,106	**1,409**
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,018	**1,471**
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	**1,469**
1936 ..	1,566	1,331	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	**1,543**
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	**1,656**
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	**1,662**
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	**1,665**
1940 ..	1,854	1,386	1,568	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,890	2,298	**1,717**

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

4. **Variations since 1914.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1940, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914, as base (= 1,000) for each group :—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

(*Base of each Group : July,* 1914 = 1,000.)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
„ 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
„ 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
„ 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
„ 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
„ 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,228	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
„ 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
„ 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
„ 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
„ 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
„ 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
„ 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,191	1,519	1,771	1,606
„ 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,709	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
„ 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
„ 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
„ 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,389	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
1931 ..	1,659	954	1,049	1,163	1,738	930	1,849	2,112	1,252
1932 ..	1,577	918	1,152	1,083	1,712	831	1,865	2,074	1,237
„ 1933 ..	1,556	1,026	1,100	994	1,661	917	1,882	2,054	1,235
„ 1934 ..	1,508	1,158	1,205	1,059	1,682	950	1,839	1,968	1,290
„ 1935 ..	1,456	1,116	1,258	1,100	1,677	931	1,792	1,946	1,288
„ 1936 ..	1,422	1,222	1,385	1,123	1,678	1,038	1,798	1,948	1,353
„ 1937 ..	1,609	1,291	1,502	1,206	1,696	1,035	2,219	1,957	1,452
„ 1938 ..	1,586	965	1,674	1,287	1,693	1,154	2,043	2,008	1,457
„ 1939 ..	1,597	1,011	1,704	1,295	1,698	1,054	2,026	2,024	1,460
„ 1940 ..	1,684	1,273	1,467	1,303	1,728	1,161	3,638	2,242	1,505

§ 2.—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.

1. **General.**—As mentioned above, the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index was first computed in 1912. Neither the component items nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently the index is a measure of changes in wholesale price levels based on usages which have altered substantially since the period on which the weighting was determined. As such it is useful as an indication of long-term trends over the past 80 years which it covers, on the assumption that the relative importance of component items remained constant. But it no longer serves as a measure of price variations from month to month or from year to year of commodities weighted in accordance with present day consumption. Reference to the description of the index in § 1 above will indicate that animal fodders preponderate in the "Agricultural Produce" group, while "Building Materials" include little besides imported timber. In other groups, some principal items have increased in consumption while others have decreased. It was resolved, therefore, at the Conference of Statisticians at Brisbane in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend the items included in order to bring the index into line with changed conditions. An investigation to that end was commenced, and in the course of the past few years, many new price-series have been collected on a monthly basis back to January,

1928. Some of these have been incorporated in a new index of the prices of basic materials and foodstuffs, preliminary index-numbers of which are currently published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Others are being incorporated in a number of " special-purpose " indexes, which it is hoped to publish in the future. Their construction has been delayed in order to make use, for weighting purposes, of the larger amount of information which is now becoming available as the result of the collection of more extensive statistics of factory production. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and dealers, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928–29 to 1934–35 inclusive. In the meantime, however, the original index has been continued on existing lines, as set out in § 1 of this chapter.

2. **Index Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for this new index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table:—

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to December, 1940.

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**
1929	1,000	1,019	831	977	769	980	1,070	1,011	1,033	1,028
1930	954	1,082	612	955	548	998	951	1,053	917	951
1931	890	1,116	575	979	581	1,012	812	1,119	791	873
1932	827	1,069	539	981	530	984	792	1,082	762	842
1933	818	882	621	949	564	995	778	1,009	746	812
1934	785	816	664	885	601	979	808	989	752	811
1935	740	877	620	817	593	971	849	1,025	761	827
1936	725	909	761	815	724	984	906	1,045	807	867
1937	791	952	872	817	889	1,102	929	1,126	843	914
1938	801	949	607	831	664	1,041	960	1,094	852	911
1939	814	972	650	835	779	1,047	948	1,112	852	916
1940	836	1,229	776	969	934	1,269	984	1,331	894	1,001
1938—										
January ..	803	955	665	822	708	1,078	895	1,108	812	885
February ..	799	954	644	831	646	1,071	904	1,102	816	886
March ..	800	952	625	831	637	1,065	921	1,098	827	893
April ..	800	950	612	831	620	1,065	941	1,097	840	903
May ..	798	949	613	831	600	1,053	960	1,090	853	911
June ..	796	947	587	831	594	1,055	995	1,092	874	928
July ..	800	948	606	831	651	1,013	1,021	1,084	894	941
August ..	801	947	599	831	670	1,017	1,046	1,105	900	955
September ..	802	946	577	831	670	1,010	1,005	1,094	880	932
October ..	805	946	587	832	735	1,022	977	1,085	868	921
November ..	805	946	595	832	729	1,022	930	1,082	836	896
December ..	802	945	574	832	702	1,022	919	1,085	825	889
1939—										
January ..	810	944	577	833	713	1,022	950	1,103	843	906
February ..	794	947	587	834	705	1,022	971	1,077	863	915
March ..	813	947	577	835	711	1,022	1,032	1,075	910	950
April ..	813	948	574	835	697	1,016	1,005	1,075	890	935
May ..	813	949	578	835	702	1,016	929	1,079	837	896
June ..	813	950	597	835	710	1,007	928	1,078	837	896
July ..	814	949	613	835	699	1,007	918	1,075	831	891
August ..	815	947	610	835	727	1,007	907	1,076	824	886
September ..	815	951	728	835	797	1,031	921	1,121	836	906
October ..	815	996	786	835	886	1,092	948	1,158	855	930
November ..	828	1,042	791	835	977	1,127	938	1,200	852	937
December ..	828	1,090	779	839	1,011	1,133	934	1,236	847	943

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to December, 1940—*continued.*

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups
1940—										
January ..	828	1,099	781	922	939	1,132	941	1,232	857	949
February ..	829	1,100	755	923	953	1,193	949	1,247	864	958
March ..	832	1,143	771	923	945	1,194	965	1,263	878	972
April ..	848	1,155	780	924	923	1,196	986	1,272	895	988
May ..	834	1,278	780	924	941	1,194	1,002	1,326	906	1,009
June ..	834	1,283	775	924	922	1,279	989	1,349	898	1,009
July ..	834	1,284	773	1,006	913	1,279	985	1,358	897	1,010
August ..	834	1,279	763	1,014	911	1,351	1,001	1,370	911	1,023
September ..	834	1,276	775	1,014	912	1,351	1,008	1,365	916	1,026
October ..	840	1,286	786	1,012	919	1,351	1,009	1,395	911	1,030
November ..	840	1,286	784	1,019	965	1,351	976	1,389	893	1,014
December ..	840	1,290	788	1,019	960	1,351	992	1,406	899	1,023

§ 3. International Comparisons: Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices in the years 1933 to 1940 for Australia and other countries, the prices in each country for the year 1929 being taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the League of Nations, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are obviously not comparable horizontally.

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers : Principal Countries.

(*Base : Year* 1929 = 100.)

Period.	United Kingdom.			Belgium.	British India (Calcutta).	China (Shanghai).	Denmark.	Dutch East Indies.	Egypt (Cairo).	Finland.	France.	Germany.
	Board of Trade.	"Statist."	"Economist."	Official.	Official.	National Tariff Commission.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.
1933 ..	75	70	68	59	62	99	83	49	61	91	64	68
1934 ..	77	72	71	56	63	93	90	46	75	92	60	72
1935 ..	78	74	74	63	65	92	92	45	82	93	54	74
1936 ..	83	78	79	69	65	104	98	46	73	96	66	76
1937 ..	95	90	89	80	72	124	110	61	76	113	93	77
1938 ..	89	80	78	74	68	146	104	57	79	105	104	77
1939 ..	90	84	80	76	76	232	109	59	76	..	..	78
1939 VI. ..	86	79	76	70	72	191	102	56	72	107	109	78
VII. ..	86	78	75	70	71	196	103	56	72	107	108	78
VIII. ..	86	79	76	70	71	253	103	56	72	108	107	78
IX. ..	92	87	83	83	81	304	118	59	76	..	..	78
X. ..	97	93	90	86	84	318	122	62	78	..	..	78
XI. ..	104	98	94	90	93	320	128	66	78	..	..	78
XII. ..	107	105	99	93	97	355	132	70	84	..	..	78
1940 I. ..	110	109	99	97	92	375	143	71	84	..	..	79
II. ..	113	109	99	99	89	432	150	70	83	..	..	79
III. ..	113	108	101	99	86	447	154	..	82	..	..	80

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers: Principal Countries—*continued.*

(*Base: Year* 1929 = 100.)

Period.	ITALY.	JAPAN.	NETHERLANDS.	NORWAY.	POLAND.	SWEDEN.	SWITZERLAND.	UNITED STATES.	AUSTRALIA.	CANADA.	NEW ZEALAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
	National Index.	Bank of Japan.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.	Official. (*b*)	Official.	Official.	Official.
						(*a*)						
1933 ..	67	82	63	82	61	..	65	69	79	70	91	80
1934 ..	65	81	63	83	58	..	64	79	79	75	92	88
1935 ..	71	84	62	85	55	100	64	84	80	75	95	82
1936 ..	80	90	64	90	56	..	68	85	84	78	96	85
1937 ..	93	108	76	105	62	114	79	91	89	88	103	87
1938 ..	100	114	72	103	58	111	76	82	89	82	105	90
1939 ..	..	126	74	105	..	115	79	81	89	79	108	89
1939 VI. ..	103	123	70	101	59	109	75	79	87	77	107	..
VII. ..	101	123	70	101	58	110	75	79	87	76	108	86
VIII. ..	..	124	71	101	..	111	76	79	86	76	110	..
IX. ..	..	131	76	103	..	118	83	83	88	82	109	..
X. ..	..	133	81	112	..	124	85	83	91	83	110	90
XI. ..	..	136	84	118	..	128	87	83	91	84	112	91
XII. ..	..	143	85	120	..	132	89	83	92	85	113	93
1940 I. ..	..	146	86	122	..	136	90	83	92	86	113	94
II. ..	..	144	88	128	..	138	92	82	93	87	115	95
III. ..	..	142	88	134	..	140	94	82	95	87	117	96

(*a*) Base: Year 1935 = 100. (*b*) Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Index.

CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

§ 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth and State Acts for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report and in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics.

2. **Acts Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Acts in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions are as follows:—

COMMONWEALTH.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1934.
National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations—Statutory Rules 1940, No. 290.
Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934.
Industrial Board Ordinance, 1936–1940 (Australian Capital Territory).

STATES.

New South Wales ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1940.
Victoria	Factories and Shops Act 1928–1939.
Queensland	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1938.
South Australia ..	The Industrial Code 1920–1937.
Western Australia ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937.
Tasmania	Wages Board Act 1920–1938.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—(i) COMMONWEALTH.—The Commonwealth authority consists of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, consisting of a Chief Judge and four* other Judges; Conciliation Commissioners not exceeding three in number; and Conciliation Committees† for particular industries. The Commonwealth Act provides that, where a State Award or Determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail. The Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority. The Commonwealth Arbitration Court began to function in 1905.

The Regulations covered by Statutory Rules, 1940, No. 290, are to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. They are designed to secure during the period of the war the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur to the detriment of the war effort. The Regulations considerably extend the powers of and facilitate the handling of disputes by the Court.

Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who was appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but the Government can move the Parliament to exercise its right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(ii) STATES—(*a*) *New South Wales.*—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of six Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioner; the Apprenticeship Commissioner; Conciliation Committees; and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of the Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(*b*) *Victoria.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(*c*) *Queensland.*—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

---

* One judge has been acting in Bankruptcy jurisdiction for several years.
† Held by the High Court in 1930 to be invalid.

(*d*) *South Australia.*—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(*e*) *Western Australia.*—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and Commissioners. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(*f*) *Tasmania.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

4. **Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.**—The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth legislation dealing with these matters during each of the years 1935 to 1939.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.

State.	1935.		1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales ..	44	31	52	39	63	42	64	38	64	17
Victoria	101	..	141	..	121	..	99	..	173	..
Queensland	46	22	61	37	46	42	38	38	50	25
South Australia	69	9	22	17	42	16	6	4	18	7
Western Australia ..	17	24	24	26	35	32	28	31	20	25
Tasmania	18	..	22	..	43	..	26	..	18	..
Commonwealth Court ..	69	13	32	13	38	11	31	13	31	21
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator ..	4	..	2	..	3	..	3	..	1	..
Total	368	99	356	132	391	143	295	124	375	95

The figures in the above table exclude variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. The variations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator numbered 1,732 in 1939 compared with 1,861 in 1938, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 1,177; Queensland, 251; South Australia, 29; Western Australia, 10; Commonwealth Court, 238, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, 27. In Victoria and Tasmania any alteration in the determination of a Wages Board is incorporated with the existing determination, and a new determination issued which wholly repeals the old one.

The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the Victorian and Tasmanian Acts, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within those States.

5. **Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place during the period under review. The number of industrial awards and determinations in force throughout Australia at 31st December, 1939, was 1,686, and the industrial agreements filed at the same date numbered 673. Including the operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts the number of awards or determinations and industrial agreements in force increased by 1,111 and 272 respectively over the number in force at 31st December, 1913.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Section 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Section 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934 repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

The provisions in the Commonwealth and State Industrial Acts that awards and agreements shall remain in force until they have been superseded or rescinded occasion some difficulty when the compilation of a list of awards, determinations and agreements actually operative is undertaken, as the specified periods in many cases have expired. This difficulty applies not only to State awards and determinations but also to awards of the Commonwealth Court. Awards, determinations and industrial agreements regarding which definite information as to supersession or rescission is not readily ascertainable are included in these records; but, in cases where it could be definitely claimed that an award, determination or agreement was out of date and the terms were not actually in operation, they have not been included in the records as at 31st December, 1939.

The above account may be accepted as a brief explanation in general terms of the currency of awards and agreements. There are exceptions in certain cases, but they are infrequent.

Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force.

Dates.	Boards Authorized.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations.	Awards or Determinations in Force.(a)	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st December, 1913	505	386 (b)	575 (c)	401
" " 1915	573	498	663	546
" " 1925	575	524	1,181	607
" " 1935	660	583	1,457	620
" " 1936	660	583	1,443	611
" " 1937	660	583	1,568	655
" " 1938	678	610	1,637	696
" " 1939	680	624	1,686	673

(a) Including awards made by Arbitration Courts and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator. (b) Owing to the fact that a number of awards under the New South Wales Industrial Disputes Act (1908) were still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act (1912) had not made any awards. (c) Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

The following table shows the number of Industrial and Wages Boards authorized, and the number of awards, determinations and industrial agreements in force at 31st December, 1913 and 1939 :—

Industrial and Wages Boards Authorized, and Industrial Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.

Particulars.	At 31st Dec.	Commonwealth.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
		Court.	Pub. Ser. Arb.							
Industrial and Wages—										
Boards authorized ..	1913	..	..	216	135	75	56	..	23	505
	1939	..	..	(a) 323	192	..	76	29	60	680
Boards which have made determinations	1913	..	..	123	123	74	47	..	19	386
	1939	..	..	(b) 280	189	..	66	29	60	624
Awards and Determinations—										
In force	1913	17	..	265	127	73	54	18	21	575
	1939	209	52	572	213	271	132	177	60	1,686
Industrial Agreements—										
In force	1913	228	..	75	..	5	11	82	..	401
	1939	113	..	158	..	159	51	192	..	673
Commonwealth Court Awards—										
Number in force in each State ..	1913	..	..	13	17	15	16	9	13	..
	1939	..	..	128	157	65	117	46	87	..
Commonwealth Agreements—										
Number in force in each State ..	1913	..	..	132	129	68	62	57	61	..
	1939	..	..	24	44	20	14	13	37	..
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator—										
Number of Determinations in force in each State ..	1939	..	..	46	42	36	39	36	35	..

(a) Under Industrial Arbitration Act 1926, Conciliation Committees have been appointed, and at the end of 1939, 324 Committees were in operation. (b) Includes 13 Demarcation Boards.

6. **New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout the Commonwealth was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year respecting new industrial legislation, as well as details respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1939 :—

(i) *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1939 was 31, and 21 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Among the industries and occupations for which awards were made during the year were :—Jam makers, &c., New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; coal-mining, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania ; aircraft manufacturing, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia ; timber workers, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; rope and cordage, New South Wales and Victoria ; road transport workers, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; clothing trades, all States except Western Australia ; saddlery and leather workers, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania ; motor body building, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; journalists, all States.

Industrial agreements covering the undermentioned industries were also made during the year :—Commonwealth Railways, Northern Territory ; radio announcers and broadcasters, all States ; local government, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania ; waterside workers, Queensland ; marine and power engineers, Western Australia ; tram and motor omnibus employees, Tasmania.

A full description of the considerations which led to the reduction by 10 per cent. as from 1st February, 1931, of all wages controlled by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and the refusal of the Court in June, 1932 and May, 1933 to restore the "cut", appeared in earlier issues of the Report (see Labour Reports Nos. 22, pp. 45–48 and 23, pp. 45–46).

The 10 per cent. " cut " was removed by the Court as from the first pay period in May, 1934, as the result of a judgment delivered 17th April. At the same time the Court abandoned the former " Harvester " standard, and replaced it by a standard established by the New South Wales Board of Trade in 1925 which the Court brought up to the December quarter, 1933, by means of the " All Items " (" C " series) index-numbers of this Bureau. A full account of the judgment appeared on pp. 76–82 of Report No. 26.

In May, 1937, the Court heard a claim by the combined unions for an increase in the basic wage, details of which will be found on page 78 of this Report.

In August, 1940, the Full Court heard an application by the Combined Unions for an increase in the Basic Wage, details of which, and the Judgment, will be found on page 79.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—During the year 1939 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act was 19, the number which expired, were dissolved or were no longer operative was 3, and at the end

of the year 324 Committees were in force. In addition, 323 Industrial Boards constituted under the Act were in force, but no awards were issued by these Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Principal awards published by the Industrial Commission numbered 17, by Conciliation Committees, 43, and by Apprenticeship Councils, 4. The number of subsidiary awards and variations issued during the year was 1,177, of which 45 were made by the Industrial Commission, 78 by Conciliation Committees, 8 by Apprenticeship Councils and 1,046 by the Industrial Registrar. At the end of the year principal awards in force numbered 572, and industrial agreements, 158.

Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 82.

The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1939, which was passed during the year, authorizes the Industrial Commission of New South Wales to fix maximum prices for bricks and certain other commodities where, by reason of the existence of monopolies or of certain contracts, agreements, understandings or arrangements the prices of those commodities are regulated or controlled and are excessive. It also transfers powers under Section 82 from the Board of Trade to the Industrial Commission.

(iii) *Victoria.*—Wages Boards made 173 determinations during the year, the number including determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. At 31st December, 1939, 213 determinations were considered to be legally in force.

An amendment of the Factories and Shops Act (No. 4461 of 1936) provided *inter alia* for the incorporation in all determinations of Wages Boards, so far as they do not conflict with State law, of the provisions of Commonwealth Arbitration Court awards for corresponding industries.

No legislation of industrial import was passed during 1939.

(iv) *Queensland.*—Fifty industrial awards were made during the year, all of which were awards of the Industrial Court. The number of industrial agreements filed was 25, and variations of awards numbered 251. At the end of the year, 271 awards and 159 industrial agreements were in force.

On page 84 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

Industrial legislation passed during the year comprised the Inspection of Machinery Acts and another Act Amendment Act of 1939 and Workers' Compensation Acts and another Act Amendment Act of 1939.

(v) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Court made eighteen awards during the year but no determinations were made by Industrial Boards. Seven industrial agreements were filed. The number of awards and determinations varied by the Court or Industrial Boards was 29.

At the end of the year 132 awards and determinations and 51 industrial agreements were in force.

Particulars of variations in the " Living Wage " determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 85.

No legislation of industrial interest was passed in 1939.

(vi) *Western Australia.*—During the year, the Industrial Court made eighteen awards, and two awards were made by various Industrial Boards. Twenty-five industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the State Act during 1939. Ten awards and seven industrial agreements were varied. At the end of the year there were 177 awards and 192 agreements in force.

Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 86.

Industrial legislation passed during the year comprised the Factories and Shops Act, Amendment Act, 1939 relating to the trading hours for sellers of motor spirit, oil or accessories and the Profiteering Prevention Act, 1939.

(vii) *Tasmania.*—During the year, Wages Boards made eighteen determinations. Among the industries and callings covered by the determinations made were the following:—Butter and cheese makers; coal-mining; motor garage employees; bakers; tanners; builders; carriers and country council employees.

The Wages Board Act in force in Tasmania provides for the inclusion of a clause in the determination for the automatic adjustment of rates of wage according to the increase or decrease in the retail price index-number. The inclusion or otherwise of this provision is decided by the Wages Boards, and a number of determinations issued embody the clause for automatic adjustment. Among the Wages Boards which have adopted this system of wage adjustment may be mentioned the following:—Bakers; builders and painters; carriers; mechanical engineering and founders; electrolytic zinc; fuel merchants; jam makers; motor garage; printers; produce stores; rubber trade; tanners; textile workers; and wholesale grocers.

At the end of the year 60 determinations were in force.

The only Act of industrial interest passed during the year under review was the Increase of Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1939 dealing with the restriction of increase of rent and fair rents boards.

(viii) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.*—During 1939, the Arbitrator made one new determination and varied 27 existing determinations.

(ix) *Australian Capital Territory.*—The regulation of industrial matters in the Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922.

In accordance with the Industrial Board Ordinance 1936–40 the Board now consists of a Chairman and four members and is constituted from time to time as follows:—

(*a*) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees and private employees—the Chairman and the four other members:

(*b*) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees—the Chairman, the member representing the Commonwealth, the member representing the Commonwealth employees; and where the matter for determination is one affecting private employees—the Chairman, the member

representing the private employers and the member representing the private employees ; provided that where the matter for determination is—

(i) the making of a common rule ; or
(ii) the determination or variation of the basic wage or standard hours of work ;

the Chairman, may, at any stage of the proceedings, order that matter be referred to the full Board for determination.

Provision was originally made only for the regulation by the Industrial Board of the wages and working conditions of Government employees, and for those working on Government contracts. By an amending Ordinance, dated 9th April, 1936, workers in outside industry were similarly brought under the control of the Board and Determinations have since been made covering the majority of occupations in private enterprise.

Provision for the automatic adjustment of wages according to the retail price variations shown by the " A " Series Index-Numbers was made in the Determination operative from 1st July, 1936. The adjustment operating from the 1st February, 1941 provides a weekly wage of 94s. 6d. for an unskilled labourer.*

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were not of course available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,† and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking

* An " A " series index-number for Canberra is specially compiled for the purposes of these adjustments.
† The adopted classification of industries is shown on page ii.

the arithmetical average* of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. It is not claimed that the results obtained by this method are precisely correct, but, owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in previous issues of the Labour Report.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28–43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44–50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.

* The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1939.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1929	103 6	101 1	101 4	97 5	100 8	94 7	a101 5
31st December, 1931	93 5	82 2	89 0	75 0	84 1	79 9	86 10
" " 1932	84 11	77 10	88 5	72 7	81 9	78 0	81 10
" " 1933	81 11	77 0	88 1	73 5	81 4	78 0	80 6
" " 1934	83 2	78 8	88 9	75 6	84 1	79 7	82 0
" " 1935	84 2	79 9	88 5	77 11	86 7	81 0	83 0
" " 1936	85 6	83 1	88 7	79 6	90 7	83 3	85 0
" " 1937	92 1	88 1	92 8	85 10	93 1	87 0	90 4
" " 1938	95 0	91 2	95 10	87 1	99 1	88 5	93 5
31st March, 1939	95 0	91 4	95 10	87 4	99 6	88 7	93 7
30th June, 1939	96 7	92 6	95 10	88 1	100 6	89 0	94 8
30th September, 1939	95 10	93 8	97 4	89 2	100 4	89 3	95 0
31st December, 1939	96 7	93 5	97 5	88 11	100 6	89 5	95 3

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
30th September, 1929	2,020	1,973	1,977	1,901	1,964	1,846	1,979
31st December, 1931	1,823	1,603	1,737	1,463	1,641	1,556	1,694
" " 1932	1,657	1,518	1,726	1,416	1,595	1,523	1,597
" " 1933	1,598	1,502	1,718	1,433	1,587	1,522	1,570
" " 1934	1,623	1,534	1,732	1,473	1,640	1,552	1,599
" " 1935	1,642	1,555	1,725	1,520	1,689	1,581	1,620
" " 1936	1,668	1,621	1,729	1,552	1,768	1,625	1,659
" " 1937	1,797	1,719	1,808	1,674	1,816	1,697	1,763
" " 1938	1,854	1,780	1,870	1,700	1,933	1,725	1,823
31st March, 1939	1,854	1,782	1,870	1,704	1,942	1,729	1,826
30th June, 1939	1,885	1,805	1,870	1,719	1,962	1,737	1,847
30th September, 1939	1,870	1,828	1,899	1,740	1,957	1,741	1,854
31st December, 1939	1,885	1,823	1,900	1,735	1,962	1,745	1,858

(*a*) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1939.—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (*b*) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-Numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.

Date.	Industrial Group. I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(*a*)	XII. Agricultural, etc.(*b*)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(*b*)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.															
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
30th September, 1929 ..	104 8	103 11	101 1	100 0	119 3	102 7	113 5	110 6	105 2	97 8	106 7	95 10	93 5	97 0	101 5
31st December, 1931 ..	85 7	86 3	88 6	83 11	102 0	85 4	98 9	102 5	86 7	83 11	81 10	80 3	85 3	83 11	86 10
,, ,, 1932 ..	83 4	81 6	84 2	77 3	98 3	80 7	93 11	98 2	80 11	78 3	79 6	74 9	76 5	78 11	81 10
,, ,, 1933 ..	82 8	81 4	83 3	76 7	97 6	79 5	92 3	97 0	80 4	76 9	80 9	71 11	74 10	77 5	80 6
,, ,, 1934 ..	85 4	83 2	83 8	79 11	99 6	81 4	93 8	97 7	82 8	78 9	84 8	73 4	75 9	78 7	82 0
,, ,, 1935 ..	86 8	85 3	85 3	80 9	100 11	83 0	94 1	99 11	84 9	80 1	85 2	73 4	76 8	79 6	83 0
,, ,, 1936 ..	88 3	86 10	87 3	81 4	104 4	85 2	95 7	101 0	86 0	81 8	86 8	75 9	79 1	82 2	85 0
,, ,, 1937 ..	95 1	94 11	92 6	89 0	108 7	91 3	101 7	104 11	92 4	88 3	95 6	78 9	85 3	87 6	90 4
,, ,, 1938 ..	98 2	97 8	95 2	91 9	112 0	94 4	104 6	108 2	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 3	88 3	90 5	93 5
31st March, 1939 ..	98 2	97 9	95 3	91 9	112 0	94 5	104 9	109 4	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 4	88 3	90 5	93 7
30th June, 1939 ..	99 8	99 3	96 1	92 8	113 3	95 6	105 7	109 10	96 4	92 10	98 6	83 5	89 4	91 7	94 8
30th September, 1939..	99 10	99 2	96 7	92 7	114 0	95 6	105 11	109 4	96 7	92 10	98 5	83 10	89 8	92 7	95 0
31st December, 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 10	96 7	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3
INDEX-NUMBERS.															
(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)															
30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
30th September, 1929..	2,042	2,028	1,973	1,950	2,327	2,001	2,214	2,157	2,052	1,905	2,079	1,870	1,823	1,893	1,979
31st December, 1931 ..	1,669	1,683	1,727	1,638	1,991	1,664	1,926	1,999	1,690	1,638	1,596	1,566	1,663	1,637	1,694
,, ,, 1932 ..	1,627	1,589	1,642	1,507	1,918	1,572	1,833	1,916	1,579	1,527	1,552	1,458	1,492	1,540	1,597
,, ,, 1933 ..	1,613	1,587	1,625	1,494	1,902	1,549	1,800	1,893	1,567	1,497	1,575	1,404	1,460	1,511	1,570
,, ,, 1934 ..	1,664	1,623	1,633	1,559	1,942	1,587	1,828	1,904	1,613	1,537	1,652	1,431	1,478	1,532	1,599
,, ,, 1935 ..	1,691	1,663	1,664	1,576	1,969	1,619	1,836	1,949	1,653	1,562	1,661	1,431	1,496	1,552	1,620
,, ,, 1936 ..	1,722	1,694	1,702	1,587	2,035	1,661	1,866	1,971	1,677	1,593	1,690	1,478	1,543	1,603	1,659
,, ,, 1937 ..	1,855	1,852	1,805	1,737	2,119	1,780	1,982	2,046	1,802	1,722	1,863	1,537	1,663	1,707	1,763
,, ,, 1938 ..	1,916	1,906	1,857	1,790	2,185	1,840	2,039	2,111	1,862	1,787	1,902	1,604	1,720	1,764	1,823
31st March, 1939 ..	1,916	1,907	1,858	1,790	2,185	1,843	2,043	2,133	1,862	1,787	1,902	1,606	1,722	1,764	1,826
30th June, 1939 ..	1,944	1,936	1,876	1,809	2,209	1,864	2,060	2,144	1,879	1,812	1,921	1,628	1,743	1,788	1,847
30th September, 1939..	1,947	1,935	1,885	1,806	2,225	1,864	2,068	2,132	1,884	1,811	1,921	1,636	1,750	1,807	1,854
31st December, 1939 ..	1,953	1,936	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,864	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858

(*a*) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied.

(*b*) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1939.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th September, 1929 ..	54 1	54 1	54 10	51 3	58 10	53 7	(a)54 2
31st December, 1931 ..	49 8	45 10	47 11	43 1	51 7	45 8	47 5
,, ,, 1932 ..	44 8	43 0	46 9	40 11	49 7	43 4	44 2
,, ,, 1933 ..	43 2	42 9	46 9	41 0	48 4	43 2	43 5
,, ,, 1934 ..	44 3	43 9	47 8	41 11	49 1	44 1	44 5
,, ,, 1935 ..	44 11	44 2	48 0	42 5	49 1	44 10	45 0
,, ,, 1936 ..	45 7	46 10	48 4	43 4	50 11	45 1	46 5
,, ,, 1937 ..	50 2	49 2	51 4	46 10	51 0	48 6	49 8
,, ,, 1938 ..	51 10	50 7	53 6	47 9	54 4	49 8	51 3
31st March, 1939 ..	52 4	50 7	53 6	48 8	54 4	49 10	51 6
30th June, 1939.. ..	53 1	51 6	53 9	48 11	54 11	50 2	52 3
30th September, 1939 ..	52 8	51 9	54 9	49 2	55 8	50 2	52 4
31st December, 1939 ..	53 3	51 9	55 2	49 7	55 8	50 8	52 8

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (27*s.* 2*d.*), 30*th April*, 1914, = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914 ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,992	1,989	2,020	1,887	2,165	1,973	1,992
31st December, 1931 ..	1,828	1,688	1,765	1,584	1,900	1,681	1,746
,, ,, 1932 ..	1,644	1,583	1,720	1,505	1,826	1,595	1,624
,, ,, 1933 ..	1,589	1,573	1,720	1,510	1,778	1,587	1,599
,, ,, 1934 ..	1,628	1,609	1,755	1,541	1,808	1,623	1,636
,, ,, 1935 ..	1,654	1,626	1,767	1,561	1,808	1,651	1,655
,, ,, 1936 ..	1,677	1,722	1,780	1,594	1,873	1,661	1,708
,, ,, 1937 ..	1,848	1,810	1,889	1,724	1,877	1,785	1,828
,, ,, 1938 ..	1,907	1,862	1,969	1,758	2,000	1,828	1,887
31st March, 1939 ..	1,926	1,863	1,969	1,790	2,000	1,833	1,896
30th June, 1939.. ..	1,954	1,895	1,978	1,800	2,021	1,845	1,922
30th September, 1939 ..	1,939	1,904	2,016	1,811	2,049	1,845	1,927
31st December, 1939 ..	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938

(*a*) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1939.—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (*b*) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups.

Date.	Industrial Group.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(*a*)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th June, 1914	22 6	24 9	26 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
30th September, 1929 ..	49 5	54 6	53 11	55 1	53 4	54 2
31st December, 1931 ..	44 4	45 5	46 11	50 9	49 10	47 5
" " 1932 ..	41 0	42 4	44 2	46 2	47 0	44 2
" " 1933 ..	40 6	41 11	43 5	43 4	45 11	43 5
" " 1934 ..	40 8	43 6	44 2	45 11	47 2	44 5
" " 1935 ..	42 1	44 2	44 8	46 3	46 5	45 0
" " 1936 ..	43 1	44 9	45 8	47 1	50 9	46 5
" " 1937 ..	45 7	48 1	49 4	51 2	53 0	49 8
" " 1938 ..	47 1	49 9	50 6	52 11	54 6	51 3
31st March, 1939	47 2	49 11	50 7	53 0	55 6	51 6
30th June, 1939	47 6	50 6	51 6	54 2	56 5	52 3
30th September, 1939 ..	48 2	50 5	51 4	54 3	56 5	52 4
31st December, 1939 ..	48 9	50 10	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
INDEX-NUMBERS.						
(*Base: Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.*)						
30th June, 1914	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,819	2,006	1,984	2,029	1,963	1,992
1st December, 1931 ..	1,630	1,672	1,728	1,869	1,834	1,746
" " 1932 ..	1,508	1,559	1,625	1,700	1,730	1,624
" " 1933 ..	1,491	1,542	1,599	1,594	1,691	1,599
" " 1934 ..	1,497	1,601	1,626	1,689	1,737	1,636
" " 1935 ..	1,549	1,625	1,645	1,701	1,708	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,585	1,646	1,680	1,734	1,867	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,677	1,770	1,815	1,883	1,952	1,828
" " 1938 ..	1,732	1,831	1,859	1,947	2,004	1,887
31st March, 1939	1,737	1,836	1,861	1,950	2,042	1,896
30th June, 1939	1,749	1,859	1,895	1,992	2,075	1,922
30th September, 1939 ..	1,773	1,856	1,890	1,996	2,077	1,927
31st December, 1939 ..	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938

(*a*) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1939.—(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some

purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (*a*) the average weekly wage, (*b*) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (*c*) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1939 :—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1939.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*a*)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	Weekly Wage	102/9	97/4	104/3	94/0	99/11	93/10	100/1
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/4	2/2½	2/4½	2/1¾	2/3¼	2/1½	2/3¼
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	100/10	97/6	102/6	94/6	102/9	97/8	99/3
	Working Hours	44.00	44.34	44.00	45.12	44.00	45.18	44.27
	Hourly Wage	2/3¼	2/2½	2/4	2/1	2/4	2/2	2/3
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	99/4	93/3	98/8	93/8	99/3	91/11	96/9
	Working Hours	44.00	45.24	43.96	46.16	45.28	46.16	44.66
	Hourly Wage	2/3	2/0¾	2/3	2/0¼	2/2¼	2/0	2/2
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	92/3	92/1	96/11	96/11	99/8	90/0	93/2
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/1¼	2/1	2/2½	2/2½	2/3¼	2/0½	2/1½
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	120/9	110/3	108/11	103/6	128/2	103/0	114/3
	Working Hours	43.38	43.39	43.20	43.68	42.72	43.35	43.35
	Hourly Wage	2/9¼	2/6½	2/6½	2/4½	3/0	2/4½	2/7½
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	99/1	91/11	97/0	93/9	98/3	92/10	95/8
	Working Hours	43.98	45.05	43.97	45.14	44.23	44.23	44.49
	Hourly Wage	2/3	2/0½	2/2½	2/1	2/2¾	2/1¼	2/1¾
VII. Building	Weekly Wage	110/0	105/7	104/7	100/8	104/1	98/6	106/5
	Working Hours	43.66	44.00	40.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.42
	Hourly Wage	2/6¼	2/4¾	2/7½	2/3½	2/4½	2/2¾	2/5½
VIII. Mining(*b*)	Weekly Wage	113/1	98/6	110/3	71/6	120/10 (*c*)	100/2	109/1
	Working Hours	42.06	42.76	42.40	43.79	40.54	43.54	42.13
	Hourly Wage	2/8¼	2/3¾	2/7¼	1/7½	2/11¾	2/3½	2/7
IX. Rail and Tram Services	Weekly Wage	97/4	95/8	99/4	92/2	97/10	89/5	96/6
	Working Hours	44 00	44.00	44.00	46.00	43.79	45.71	44.21
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	2/2	2/3	2/0	2/2¾	1/11½	2/2¼
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	96/10	89/0	96/1	83/10	96/2	86/11	92/10
	Working Hours	44.00	44.53	44.00	44.73	46.50	44.00	44.35
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	2/0	2/2¼	1/10½	2/0¾	1/11¾	2/-¼

(*a*) Weighted Average. (*b*) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State. (*c*) Excludes District Allowances in the gold-mining industry.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued.*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
XI. Shipping, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	99/1	98/0	96/6	101/10	97/3	98/5	98/6
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	80/2	84/6	90/4	81/8	88/5	85/9	84/0
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	92/1	90/2	90/4	86/1	88/8	69/10	89/11
	Working Hours	44.00	45.86	44.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	45.29
	Hourly Wage(c)	2/1	1/11½	2/0¾	1/9½	1/10¼	1/5½	1/11¾
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	95/2	92/1	95/5	85/7	93/5	82/3	92/10
	Working Hours	44.00	45.23	44.00	47.19	47.23	47.06	45.19
	Hourly Wage	2/1¾	2/0½	2/2	1/9¾	1/11¾	1/11	2/0¾
All Groups(a)	Weekly Wage	96/7	93/5	97/5	88/11	100/6	89/5	95/3
All Groups excepting XI. and XII.(a)	Weekly Wage	100/4	95/2	100/0	90/3	103/2	90/7	98/0
	Working Hours	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
	Hourly Wage	2/3½	2/1½	2/3½	1/11½	2/4	2/0	2/2½

(a) Weighted average. (b) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation where provided. (c) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1939 :—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1939.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	49/7	49/2	46/5	44/0	44/4	49/6	48/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.67	44.33	46.00	44.00	44.00	44.43
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/1¼	1/0½	0/11½	1/0	1/1½	1/1¼
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	50/8	49/8	53/5	53/3	52/5	50/2	50/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/1¾	1/1½	1/2½	1/2½	1/2¼	1/1¾	1/1¾
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	49/11	54/1	49/5	50/0	..	51/0	51/11
	Working Hours	44.00	44.27	44.00	45.97	..	44.00	44.25
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/2¾	1/1½	1/1	..	1/2	1/2
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	WeeklyWage(b)	52/6	56/9	55/7	44/10	59/4	51/11	54/4
	Working Hours	43.38	44.62	44.00	48.00	46.80	48.00	44.64
	Hourly Wage(b)	1/2½	1/3¼	1/3¼	0/11¼	1/3¼	1/1	1/2½
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	60/5	53/10	60/6	47/0	..	..	56/8
	Working Hours	44.00	45.50	44.00	48.00	..	..	44.96
	Hourly Wage	1/4½	1/2¼	1/4½	0/11¾	..	..	1/3
All Groups(a)	Weekly Wage	53/3	51/9	55/2	49/6	55/8	50/8	52/8
	Working Hours	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
	Hourly Wage	1/2½	1/2	1/3	1/1	1/2¾	1/1½	1/2¼

(a) Weighted Average. (b) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1939.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1939. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

State.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
RATES OF WAGE.													
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
N.S.Wales ..	44 1	43 11	51 5	56 2	94 0	102 11	81 11	83 2	84 2	85 6	92 1	95 0	96 7
Victoria ..	40 5	40 9	50 6	54 7	86 1	101 1	77 0	78 8	79 9	83 1	88 1	91 2	93 5
Queensland ..	46 6	46 2	51 1	53 5	91 6	101 2	88 1	88 9	88 5	88 7	92 8	95 10	97 5
S. Australia ..	41 7	42 0	51 11	54 5	82 8	97 0	73 5	75 6	77 11	79 6	85 10	87 1	88 11
W. Australia ..	52 4	53 11	59 0	62 10	89 9	100 7	81 4	84 1	86 7	90 8	93 1	99 1	100 6
Tasmania ..	38 6	36 10	41 0	52 8	85 9	94 8	78 0	79 7	81 0	83 3	87 0	88 5	89 5
Australia ..	43 5	43 5	51 3	55 7	89 10	101 2	80 6	82 0	83 0	85 0	90 4	93 5	95 3
INDEX-NUMBERS.													
(*Base: Weighted average for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*) 1911 = 1,000.)													
N.S. Wales ..	861	858	1,003	1,096	1,835	2,007	1,598	1,623	1,642	1,668	1,797	1,854	1,885
Victoria ..	789	796	985	1,065	1,679	1,972	1,502	1,534	1,555	1,621	1,719	1,780	1,823
Queensland ..	908	901	997	1,042	1,785	1,975	1,718	1,732	1,725	1,729	1,808	1,870	1,900
S. Australia ..	811	819	1,013	1,062	1,613	1,896	1,433	1,473	1,520	1,552	1,674	1,700	1,735
W. Australia ..	1,022	1,052	1,152	1,226	1,751	1,963	1,587	1,640	1,689	1,768	1,816	1,933	1,962
Tasmania ..	751	719	799	1,028	1,674	1,848	1,522	1,552	1,581	1,625	1,697	1,725	1,745
Australia ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,570	1,599	1,620	1,659	1,763	1,823	1,858

8. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1939.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly wages payable in each industrial group in Australia. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
RATES OF WAGE.													
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
I. ..	52 5	52 3	57 8	59 6	95 1	104 10	82 8	85 4	86 8	88 3	95 1	98 2	100 1
II. ..	47 8	48 5	54 6	57 9	92 5	103 6	81 4	83 2	85 3	86 10	94 11	97 8	99 3
III. ..	38 2	44 7	50 9	55 8	89 3	100 10	83 3	83 8	85 4	87 3	92 6	95 2	96 9
IV. ..	36 8	36 3	50 3	53 0	86 5	99 6	76 7	79 11	80 9	81 4	89 0	91 9	93 2
V. ..	53 5	51 0	58 11	63 10	99 6	119 1	97 6	99 6	100 11	104 4	108 7	112 0	114 3
VI. ..	46 4	46 5	51 11	56 0	88 11	102 2	79 5	81 4	83 0	85 2	91 3	94 4	95 8
VII. ..	50 6	53 10	62 1	65 5	95 7	113 0	92 3	93 8	94 1	95 7	101 7	104 6	106 5
VIII. ..	58 1	54 8	61 2	65 2	103 10	110 7	97 0	97 7	99 11	101 0	104 11	108 2	109 1
IX. ..	50 10	52 4	57 0	59 8	93 1	105 2	80 4	82 8	84 9	86 0	92 4	95 5	96 6
X. ..	39 6	40 9	46 7	52 8	87 3	96 9	76 9	78 9	80 1	81 8	88 3	91 7	92 10
XI. ..	38 2	38 5	44 7	49 10	88 0	107 0	80 9	84 8	85 2	86 8	95 6	97 6	98 6
XII. ..	34 10	32 1	43 0	49 5	87 1	95 6	71 11	73 4	73 4	75 9	78 9	82 3	84 0
XIII. ..	32 10	30 8	45 5	47 11	80 6	92 6	74 10	75 9	76 8	79 1	85 3	88 3	89 11
XIV. ..	39 7	38 10	47 7	54 0	84 11	96 8	77 5	78 7	79 7	82 2	87 6	90 5	92 10
ALL GROUPS	43 5	43 5	51 3	55 7	89 10	101 2	80 6	82 0	83 0	85 0	90 4	93 5	95 3

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued.*

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base : Weighted average for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*) 1911 = 1,000.)													
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,019	1,125	1,161	1,855	2,046	1,613	1,664	1,691	1,722	1,855	1,916	1,953
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	931	945	1,064	1,127	1,803	2,019	1,587	1,623	1,663	1,694	1,852	1,906	1,936
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	745	871	991	1,085	1,742	1,967	1,625	1,633	1,664	1,702	1,805	1,857	1,888
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	716	708	981	1,034	1,687	1,942	1,494	1,559	1,576	1,587	1,737	1,790	1,817
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	996	1,149	1,246	1,941	2,323	1,902	1,942	1,969	2,035	2,119	2,185	2,229
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	1,013	1,093	1,736	1,994	1,540	1,587	1,616	1,661	1,780	1,840	1,867
VII. Building	986	1,050	1,213	1,276	1,865	2,205	1,800	1,828	1,836	1,866	1,982	2,039	2,076
VIII. Mining	1,134	1,067	1,194	1,272	2,026	2,157	1,893	1,904	1,949	1,971	2,046	2,111	2,142
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,113	1,165	1,816	2,052	1,567	1,613	1,653	1,677	1,802	1,862	1,884
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	910	1,026	1,702	1,888	1,497	1,537	1,562	1,593	1,722	1,787	1,812
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	745	751	871	972	1,716	2,087	1,575	1,652	1,661	1,690	1,863	1,902	1,922
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	680	627	839	965	1,699	1,863	1,404	1,431	1,431	1,478	1,537	1,604	1,639
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	887	935	1,571	1,801	1,460	1,478	1,496	1,543	1,663	1,722	1,755
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	773	759	929	1,054	1,656	1,886	1,511	1,530	1,552	1,603	1,707	1,764	1,811
All Groups ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,570	1,599	1,620	1,659	1,765	1,823	1,858

9. **Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1939.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (*a*)

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th April, 1914 ..	1 2	1 1¾	1 1½	1 1¾	1 4¼	1 1	1 2
31st December, 1921	2 1¼	2 0¼	2 2	1 10¾	2 1	1 11½	2 0¾
" " 1927	2 3¾	2 2¼	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¼	2 0¼	2 2¾
" " 1928	2 4	2 2	2 4	2 1	2 2¾	2 0	2 3
" " 1929	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¾	2 0½	2 3
" " 1930	2 2¾	2 1¼	2 1¾	2 0	2 2¾	1 11¾	2 1¾
" " 1931	2 2¼	1 9¼	2 0½	1 7¼	1 10½	1 8¾	1 11½
" " 1932	1 11¾	1 8¼	2 0¼	1 7	1 10	1 8½	1 10
" " 1933	1 11	1 8	2 0¾	1 7¼	1 10	1 8½	1 9¾
" " 1934	1 11½	1 8¾	2 0¾	1 7¾	1 10¾	1 8¾	1 10¼
" " 1935	1 11¾	1 9	2 1	1 8½	1 11½	1 9¼	1 10¾
" " 1936	2 0¼	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 0¾	1 9¾	1 11¼
" " 1937	2 2¼	1 11½	2 2¼	1 10¼	2 1¼	1 11	2 0¾
" " 1938	2 3	2 0¼	2 3	1 10¾	2 3½	1 11¼	2 1¾
" " 1939	2 3½	2 1½	2 3½	1 11½	2 4	2 0	2 2½

(*a*) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			INDEX-NUMBERS.				
			(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (13.96*d.*) *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)				
30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
,, ,, 1927	1,980	1,880	1,998	1,800	1,882	1,731	1,920
,, ,, 1928	2,004	1,867	2,001	1,788	1,916	1,728	1,928
,, ,, 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
,, ,, 1930	1,912	1,813	1,846	1,724	1,922	1,708	1,851
,, ,, 1931	1,873	1,527	1,749	1,383	1,617	1,480	1,676
,, ,, 1932	1,701	1,451	1,748	1,355	1,584	1,464	1,584
,, ,, 1933	1,655	1,438	1,775	1,372	1,571	1,463	1,567
,, ,, 1934	1,676	1,484	1,782	1,410	1,624	1,494	1,594
,, ,, 1935	1,703	1,496	1,782	1,476	1,689	1,519	1,623
,, ,, 1936	1,731	1,567	1,787	1,500	1,776	1,552	1,670
,, ,, 1937	1,878	1,676	1,875	1,602	1,804	1,643	1,779
,, ,, 1938	1,935	1,741	1,934	1,638	1,968	1,671	1,840
,, ,, 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903

10. **Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1939.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			RATES OF WAGE.				
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th April, 1914 ..	0 6½	0 6¾	0 6½	0 5¾	0 9¼	0 6	0 6¾
31st December, 1921	1 1	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¾	1 2¾	1 0	1 0¾
,, ,, 1927	1 2½	1 1¾	1 2½	1 1	1 3½	1 1¼	1 2
,, ,, 1928	1 2¾	1 2¼	1 3	1 1¼	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
,, ,, 1929	1 2¾	1 2½	1 3	1 1½	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
,, ,, 1930	1 2	1 2	1 2½	1 1¼	1 3¾	1 2	1 2¼
,, ,, 1931	1 1½	1 0	1 1	0 11¼	1 1½	1 0	1 0¾
,, ,, 1932	1 0¼	0 11¼	1 0¼	0 10¾	1 1	0 11¼	0 11¾
,, ,, 1933	0 11¾	0 11¼	1 0¾	0 10¾	1 0¾	0 11¼	0 11¾
,, ,, 1934	1 0	0 11½	1 1	0 11	1 1	0 11½	1 0
,, ,, 1935	1 0½	0 11¾	1 1	0 11½	1 1	0 11¾	1 0
,, ,, 1936	1 0½	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¼	1 1½	1 0	1 0½
,, ,, 1937	1 1¼	1 1¼	1 2	1 0¼	1 1½	1 0¾	1 1½
,, ,, 1938	1 2¼	1 1½	1 2½	1 0½	1 2¼	1 1¼	1 1¾
,, ,, 1939	1 2½	1 2	1 3	1 1	1 2¾	1 1½	1 2¼

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	INDEX-NUMBERS.						
	(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (6.64*d.*), 30*th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)						
30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1927	2,175	2,084	2,193	1,958	2,327	1,985	2,125
" " 1928	2,205	2,140	2,250	2,003	2,333	2,092	2,172
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1930	2,113	2,127	2,172	2,011	2,383	2,105	2,128
" " 1931	2,044	1,822	1,943	1,688	2,045	1,791	1,910
" " 1932	1,837	1,711	1,863	1,605	1,967	1,700	1,777
" " 1933	1,776	1,700	1,919	1,611	1,916	1,691	1,752
" " 1934	1,819	1,738	1,956	1,699	1,947	1,730	1,797
" " 1935	1,848	1,758	1,971	1,721	1,947	1,759	1,818
" " 1936	1,875	1,883	1,985	1,700	2,018	1,803	1,881
" " 1937	2,066	1,985	2,107	1,839	1,990	1,938	2,017
" " 1938	2,134	2,050	2,196	1,878	2,164	1,991	2,084
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145

11. **Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1939. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) : Adult Males, States.(*a*)

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia
	HOURS OF LABOUR.						
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1927	44.44	46.82	43.96	46.78	45.75	47.16	45.46
" " 1928	44.17	46.70	43.96	46.67	45.30	46.85	45.27
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1930	45.64	46.85	44.43	46.83	45.55	47.09	45.98
" " 1931	44.22	46.88	44.98	46.83	45.55	46.76	45.51
" " 1932	44.19	46.86	44.99	46.83	45.51	46.75	45.49
" " 1933	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1934	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1935	44.18	46.69	43.69	46.63	45.48	46.75	45.26
" " 1936	44.08	46.41	43.69	46.55	45.30	46.33	45.09
" " 1937	44.07	46.22	43.68	46.57	45.25	46.24	45.03
" " 1938	44.01	45.75	43.67	46.31	44.34	46.00	44.82
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29

(*a*) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Males, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			INDEX-NUMBERS.				
			(*Base: Weighted Average for Australia* (48.93), 30*th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)				
30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1927	908	957	898	956	935	964	929
" " 1928	903	954	898	954	926	957	925
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1930	933	958	908	957	931	962	940
" " 1931	904	958	919	957	931	956	930
" " 1932	903	958	919	957	930	955	930
" " 1933	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1934	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1935	903	954	893	953	929	955	925
" " 1936	901	948	893	951	926	947	922
" " 1937	901	945	893	952	925	945	920
" " 1938	899	935	893	946	906	940	916
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905

12. **Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1939. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			HOURS OF LABOUR.				
30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1927	44.02	45.58	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
" " 1928	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1930	45.85	45.44	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	45.48
" " 1931	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1932	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1933	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1934	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1935	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1936	43.93	44.94	44.03	46.03	45.57	45.24	44.60
" " 1937	43.92	44.76	44.03	46.02	45.57	45.24	44.52
" " 1938	43.88	44.63	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44
" " 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(*Base: Weighted average for Australia* (49.08) *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1927	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
" " 1928	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1930	934	926	897	938	928	939	927
" " 1931	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1932	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1933	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1934	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1935	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1936	895	916	897	938	928	922	909
" " 1937	895	912	897	938	928	922	907
" " 1938	894	909	897	936	925	919	905
" " 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904

13. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* or *real* when expressed in terms of their equivalent purchasing power, that is, their purchasing power over some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A" series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C" series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages to the end of 1937 are measured in terms of their purchasing power over both the "A" series regimen and the "C" series regimen* in the following tables and over the "C" series only for the subsequent years.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1901 to 1939.*—The following table shows for the period 1901 to 1939 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

* For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 35.

Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.

(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia,* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
N.S.Wales ..	858	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,851	1.734	1,638	1,617	1,631	1,654	1,723	1,829	1,874
Victoria ..	796	985	1,062	1,803	1.964	1,683	1,552	1,502	1,523	1,550	1,583	1.665	1,755	1,808
Queensland ..	901	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,769	1,731	1,720	1,727	1,731	1,728	1,774	1,854	1,885
S. Australia	819	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,580	1,434	1,423	1,458	1,493	1,533	1,608	1,688	1,725
W. Australia	1,052	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,745	1,611	1,584	1,619	1,689	1,730	1,790	1,876	1,956
Tasmania ..	719	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,625	1,533	1,519	1,540	1,571	1,610	1,656	1,718	1,738
Australia ..	848	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,752	1,639	1,584	1,590	1,612	1,638	1,707	1,799	1,846

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States*—1901–1939.—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following tables the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 which are based on nominal rates of wage current at the end of December may be taken as substantially accurate since the movement in wages during the course of any one year prior to 1914 was comparatively slight.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "A" series regimen.

(*Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
N.S.Wales..	961	973	906	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107	1,160	1,150	1,138	1,101	1,095	1,090	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	1,038	1,120	1,084	1,158	1,162	1,126	1,139	1,114	1,092	1,075	1,099
Queensland	1,172	1,090	1,038	1,244	1,236	1,220	1,317	1,345	1,376	1,417	1,377	1,323	1,261	1,237
S. Australia	948	957	929	1,027	1 089	1,067	1,166	1,178	1,133	1,152	1 144	1,149	1,143	1,151
W. Australia	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,139	1,156	1,143	1,229	1,232	1,212	1,246	1,221	1,260	1,251	1,253
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	977	1,099	1,064	1,111	1,104	1,067	1,094	1,086	1,099	1,094	1,088
Australia	964	1,000	948	1,076	1,115	1,082	1,152	1,185	1,168	1,178	1,148	1,135	1,121	1,133

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work): Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.

(*Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
N.S.Wales ..	..	925	1,073	1,159	1,130	1,210	1,206	1,186	1,157	1,153	1,150	1,168	1,207	1,207
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,188	1,164	1,200	1,150	1,147	1,146	1,134	1,131	1,155	1,180	1,180
Queensland..	..	1,022	1,227	1,296	1,290	1,336	1,366	1,382	1,366	1,338	1,296	1,277	1,311	1,306
S. Australia	..	914	1,034	1,106	1,099	1,137	1,079	1,086	1,091	1,097	1,101	1,128	1,146	1,147
W. Australia	..	1,043	1,096	1,155	1,152	1,189	1,158	1,177	1,177	1,221	1,210	1,242	1,281	1,308
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,123	1,108	1,120	1,094	1,110	1,109	1,115	1,128	1,141	1,167	1,153
Australia..	1,000	948	1,087	1,172	1,151	1,210	1,190	1,187	1,173	1,169	1,162	1,178	1,209	1,211

In the above tables the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia*—1901–1939. In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work).(a)

(*Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901.. ..	848	880	..	964	..
1910.. ..	955	970	..	985	..
1911.. ..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1912.. ..	1,051	1,101	..	955	..
1913.. ..	1,076	1,104	..	975	..
1914.. ..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1915.. ..	1,092	1,278	1,297	854	842
1916.. ..	1,144	1,324	1,319	864	867
1917.. ..	1,226	1,318	1,406	930	872
1918.. ..	1,270	1,362	1,501	932	846
1919.. ..	1,370	1,510	1,695	907	808
1920.. ..	1,627	1,785	1,935	911	841
1921.. ..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1922.. ..	1,801	1,600	1,619	1,126	1,112
1923.. ..	1,805	1,700	1,664	1,062	1,085
1924.. ..	1,840	1,681	1,637	1,095	1,124
1925.. ..	1,861	1,722	1,654	1,081	1,125
1926.. ..	1,914	1,786	1,677	1,072	1,141
1927.. ..	1,946	1,766	1,662	1,102	1,171
1928.. ..	1,963	1,760	1,675	1,115	1,172
1929.. ..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1930.. ..	1,939	1,683	1,618	1,152	1,198
1931.. ..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932.. ..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933.. ..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934.. ..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935.. ..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936.. ..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937.. ..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938.. ..	1,799	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,209
1939.. ..	1,846	(b)	1,526	(b)	1,211

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. under the "C" series.

Retail prices rose slightly in 1939, but as nominal wages rose to a greater extent than prices, the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,209 to 1,211 under the "C" series.

14. **Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production valued as in the principal markets as ascertained from various sources during the years specified :—

Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1919–20 ..	72,202	111,683	38,830	9,670	18,982	92,330	343,697
1920–21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1921–22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	20,029	112,517	344,426
1922–23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,281	123,188	379,445
1923–24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,184	132,732	400,276
1924–25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,592	137,977	454,580
1925–26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,529	143,256	431,670
1926–27 ..	98,295	111,716	46,980	12,790	23,939	153,634	447,354
1927–28 ..	84,328	124,554	50,261	12,181	23,015	158,562	452,901
1928–29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1929–30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,912	149,184	389,537
1930–31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931–32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932–33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933–34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934–35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935–36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,248	155,891	404,770
1936–37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937–38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914
1938–39 ..	76,851	84,895	60,404	14,634	32,463	195,746	464,993

(a) Net Values.

In earlier issues of this Report an attempt was made to measure the quantity of material production by means of production price index-numbers. It was found, however, that these were not satisfactory in their application to factory production. In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the total *quantity* of recorded production, the retail price index-numbers have been applied to the value of production, in the same manner as they have been applied to nominal wages, to measure their relative purchasing power. The results may be taken to indicate the purchasing power in retail prices of the things produced and for convenience will hereafter be called *real* production. Owing to the discontinuance in 1938 of the "A" series retail price index-number it is not now possible to continue the measurement on the basis of this series.

Two tables are given:—The first shows *real* production per head of population, but any deductions therefrom must take into account the following considerations. The production considered is material production only, and takes no account of services. As civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in such production. For example, the use of the motor car, the cinema and wireless is comparatively recent, and in connexion therewith a much larger number of people is employed in services than in material production. It follows, therefore, that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, will also depress it.

A better measure is given by *real* production per person engaged in material production. The second table attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell different stories. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, *real* production per head (as shown in the last column of the first table) had remained substantially steady with minor fluctuations since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been largely counterbalanced by the gradual change over from production of goods to production of services. Coincident with the heavy increase in unemployment between the years 1930 and 1933, the maximum being reached in 1932, the index-number fell sharply from its normal level of about 100 to 78 in 1930–31. This would imply a fall in average *real* income of nearly one-fourth from the normal level, taking unemployment into account. Apart from a slight recession in 1934–35 due to a drop in wool values the index-number rose continuously from 1931–32 onwards; the pre-depression level was reached in 1935–36 and the peak of 1924–25 was exceeded in 1937–38. In 1938–39, however, a decrease in the value of material production due principally to the fall in both quantities and prices of wool and wheat was accompanied by an increase in the retail price index and *real* production per head of population fell 8 per cent. below the peak of 1937–38.

The index-number of *real* production per person engaged (as given in the last column of the second table) shows on the other hand, an appreciable upward tendency. It rose steeply during the war, as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again In 1929–30 the fall was substantial, due partly to the lag in the fall of retail prices. It

increased during the next four years to 126, only to fall again in 1934–35 to 117 with the fall in wool prices during that year. Most of this loss was recovered in 1935–36, while in 1936–37 it advanced to a record level at which it was maintained during the following year. For reasons already stated a decline of 7 per cent. was recorded for 1938–39. Although not so high as the previous year, this figure for *real* production per person engaged implies a high *real* wage for *those in employment*, and is consistent with available information concerning rate of *effective* or *real* wages, which more than maintained in recent years the high level reached in the years 1927 to 1929.

Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Value of Material Production.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (*a*) 1911 = 1,000.		*Real* Production per head of population (1911 = 100) measured in purchasing power over regimen of—	
	Total, £1,000.	Per head of population.					
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911 = 100	"A" Series.	"C" Series.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
		£					
1906 ..	147,043	35·9	87	902	..	97	..
1911 ..	188,359	41·2	100	1,000	(1,000)	100	100
1913 ..	220,884	45·1	110	1,104	..	99	..
1914 ..	213,552	43·0	104	1,140	1,140	92	92
1916 ..	261,996	53·3	129	1,324	1,319	98	98
1919–20..	343,697	64·9	158	1,624	1,695	97	93
1920–21..	390,644	72·2	175	1,821	1,935	96	91
1921–22..	344,426	62·5	152	1,600	1,680	95	90
1922–23..	379,445	67·4	163	1,642	1,619	100	101
1923–24..	400,276	69·6	169	1,714	1,664	99	102
1924–25..	454,580	77·3	188	1,690	1,637	111	115
1925–26..	431,670	72·0	175	1,766	1,673	99	104
1926–27..	447,354	73·1	178	1,763	1,663	101	107
1927–28..	452,901	72·5	176	1,776	1,676	99	105
1928–29..	447,805	70·5	171	1,785	1,693	96	101
1929–30..	389,537	60·6	147	1,783	1,688	83	87
1930–31..	319,706	49·2	120	1,574	1,528	76	78
1931–32..	305,018	46·5	113	1,432	1,406	79	80
1932–33..	318,224	48·2	117	1,358	1,344	86	87
1933–34..	357,218	53·7	130	1,365	1,344	96	97
1934–35..	356,349	53·2	129	1,399	1,366	92	95
1935–36..	404,770	60·0	146	1,437	1,392	101	105
1936–37..	456,745	67·1	163	1,489	1,431	110	114
1937–38..	486,914	70·9	172	1,530	1,467	112	117
1938–39..	464,993	67·1	163	(*b*)	1,512	(*b*)	108

(*a*) For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 35. (*b*) Not available.

Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in Production.(a)		*Real* Production per person engaged (1911 = 100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911 = 100.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
	(1,000.)				
1906.. ..	659	223	87	96	..
1911.. ..	728	257	100	100	100
1913.. ..	756	290	113	102	..
1914.. ..	733	289	113	99	99
1916.. ..	685	381	148	112	112
1919–20 ..	743	460	179	110	106
1920–21 ..	760	510	199	109	103
1921–22 ..	775	441	172	107	102
1922–23 ..	793	475	185	113	114
1923–24 ..	810	491	191	111	115
1924–25 ..	826	547	213	126	130
1925–26 ..	831	515	201	114	120
1926–27 ..	841	527	205	116	123
1927–28 ..	838	536	209	118	125
1928–29 ..	830	536	209	117	123
1929–30 ..	803	482	187	105	110
1930–31 ..	728	431	168	108	112
1931–32 ..	741	411	160	112	114
1932–33 ..	781	407	158	117	118
1933–34 ..	815	437	170	125	126
1934–35 ..	862	412	160	115	117
1935–36 ..	901	448	174	121	125
1936–37 ..	930	491	191	128	134
1937–38 ..	961	504	196	128	134
1938–39 ..	962	481	187	(c)	124

(a) *Vide* following explanatory remarks. (b) For explanation of "A" and "C" Series, see page 35.
(c) Not available.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber-getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account, and the corresponding persons engaged, are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed "numbers engaged" is, therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, it should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

§ 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

1. **The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The "basic" wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be

paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, the same Wages Board system exists, but by amendments of the Factories Act, operative from 17th October, 1934 (*vide* p. 83), Wages Boards are obliged to adopt the same basic wage as that determined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for similar industries.

As the power of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court is limited by the Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all inter-State industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.

(ii) *Acts in Force.*—The acts in force providing for the determination of a "basic" wage are as follows:—

(*a*) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940.

(*b*) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act, 1928–1939.

(*c*) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1938.

(*d*) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920–1937.

(*e*) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester Judgment" on account of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works. The rate of wage declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for "a family of about five*", and was generally referred to as the "Harvester" wage. The constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

* The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35–39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and one such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. *See* however, page 80, for Court's interpretation in 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the "family unit".

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (*d*) of the Excise Tariff 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia " under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable." The President discussed at length the meaning of " fair and reasonable ", and stated: " These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community.' " This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Federal Arbitration Court in the fixation of its " basic "* wage.

The President in his judgment stated: " My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The " Harvester " basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A " series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-nunbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the table 1,000 as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain " loadings " were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.†

In 1922 an amount known as the " Powers' 3s."‡ was added as a general " loading " to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the " Harvester " standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the " A " series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that of the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

* The term " minimum " wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry, and is either equal to or greater than the " basic " wage.

† As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

‡ Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard has been the subject of much discussion, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the War of 1914–19 hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission (referred to later) was appointed in 1920 to assess a basic wage, but its recommendations were not carried out.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1934.—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934, full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report. The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was as follows for the six capital cities :—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Sydney	67	0	Adelaide ..	64	0
Melbourne	64	0	Perth	66	0
Brisbane	61	0	Hobart	67	0

Six Capital cities, 65s.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous

household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates for the capital cities, which are proportionate to their respective index-numbers. In effect, the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1937.—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June. The chief features of the judgment were:

(*a*) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined by the 1934 judgment. The latter was referred to in the judgment as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows:—

City.	"Needs" Basic Wage.	"Loading."	Total Basic Wage.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Sydney	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide	68 0 (*a*)	4 0	72 0
Perth	70 0 (*a*)	4 0	74 0
Hobart	70 0 (*b*)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals	70 0	5 0	75 0

(*a*) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.
(*b*) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

The " loadings " were to come into operation by instalments as follows :—

" Loading."	Instalments.	Date of Operation. (First pay period to begin in—).
s. d.	*s. d.*	
6 0	3 0	July, 1937
	3 0	October ,,
5 0	3 0	July ,,
	2 0	October ,,
4 0	2 0	July ,,
	2 0	October ,,
3 0	2 0	July ,,
	1 0	October ,,

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(*b*) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(*c*) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(*d*) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the " C " series to a special " Court " series based upon the " C " series, for an explanation of which see page 36.

(*e*) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (See No. 28, p. 77).

(iv) " *Lag* " *in Adjustments*.—The Federal Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the " Court " Series of Index-Numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the " C " series index upon which the " Court " series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the present " Prosperity " loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded the 'needs' of an average family should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor . . . . What should be sought is the independent ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the Harvester case. Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained . . . . It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, "I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government* future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges (O'Mara *J.*, and Piper *J.*) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

* Legislation covering a scheme to become operative on 1st July, 1941, was actually passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1941—*see* page 89 for details.

(vi) *Rates Prescribed.*—The "basic" wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males, including the "loadings" granted in 1937, operative from 1st February, 1941, are as follows:—

	s.	d.
New South Wales—		
Sydney	88	0
Newcastle(a)	88	0
Broken Hill	88	0
Five Towns	87	0
Victoria—		
Melbourne, Geelong, Warrnambool, Mildura	86	0
Yallourn	92	6
Five Towns	86	0
Queensland—		
Brisbane	82	0
Five Towns	82	0
South Australia—		
Adelaide	82	0
Five Towns	81	0
Western Australia—		
Perth	81	0
Kalgoorlie	96	0
Geraldton	87	0
Five Towns	82	0
Tasmania—		
Hobart	83	0
Launceston	81	0
Queenstown	82	0
Five Towns	82	0
Thirty Towns	85	0
Six Capital Cities	85	0

(a) Based on Sydney.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females (prescribed by the individual judges) is approximately 54 per cent. of the adult male rate.

3. State Basic Wages.—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. The Court, however, indicated to Industrial Boards that in view of the prosperous condition of industry they should fix the "living" wage at 8s. 6d. per day. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. The first declaration by this body was made on 5th September, 1918. The Board of Trade made numerous declarations during the period 1918 to 1925, its last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board of Trade ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, "not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living

wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the Industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

(*State Jurisdiction*).

Male.		Female.	
Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
16th February, 1914 ..	2 8 0	..	..
17th December, 1915 ..	2 12 6	..	..
18th August, 1916 ..	2 15 6	..	..
5th September, 1918 ..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918 ..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919 ..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919 ..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920 ..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920 ..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921 ..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921 ..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922	3 18 0	9th October, 1922 ..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923	3 19 0	(*a*)	2 0 0
7th September, 1923 ..	4 2 0	.. .. ..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925 ..	4 4 0	.. .. ..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927	4 5 0	.. .. ..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929 ..	4 2 6	.. .. ..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933 ..	3 6 6	.. .. ..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934	3 7 6	.. .. ..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936	3 9 0	.. .. ..	(*b*)1 17 6
27th October, 1936 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
27th April, 1937	3 11 6(*c*)	.. .. ..	1 18 6

(*a*) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.
(*b*) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.
(*c*) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for details of which and latest rates see below.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court referred to on page 78, the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Federal rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed

as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's " All Items " Retail Price Index-Numbers, shortly known as the " Court " Series of Index-Numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the " prosperity loadings " as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading " of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate; and to specify the appropriate " Court " Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

Compared with State adult basic wages of £3 11s. 6d. per week for males, and £1 18s. 6d. for females operative at the time, the alteration represented for males increases of 6s. 6d. in Sydney; 3s. 6d. in Country districts (with certain exceptions); and 4s. 6d. for railway and other Crown employees as defined by the Act. For females the increases were 54 per cent. of the foregoing, and amounted to 3s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d., respectively.

The rates applicable in the metropolitan area under this system of fixation and adjustment are £4 8s. per week for adult males, and £2 7s. 6d. for adult females, from the first pay period commencing in February, 1941.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age is operative in New South Wales, and a brief account of the main features of the system appears in par. 5.

(ii) *Victoria.*—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Federal Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments to variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 (proclaimed to come into operation on 17th October, 1934) and 4461 of 1936, it is now obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Federal Award rates and conditions " which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations ". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

The latest Federal rate for Melbourne is 86s. per week for males operative from 1st February, 1941, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of that or £2 6s. 6d.

(iii) *Queensland.*—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(*a*) the " basic " wage, and (*b*) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the " standard " hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic" wage are—(*a*) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (*b*) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows :—

Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (*a*)	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941	4 9 0	2 8 0

(*a*) Fixed by Basic Wage Act.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the South-Eastern Division of the State; allowances are added for the following divisions :— Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(iv) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Code 1920–1937 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living" wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living" wage whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living" wage, but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

According to the Industrial Code 1920–1937, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living" wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in South Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	25th November, 1937 ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	5th January, 1939 ..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	28th November, 1940 ..	2 1 0

(v) *Western Australia.*—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937 provides that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(*a*) a "basic" wage to operate from the 1st July of each year, to be paid to male and female workers; and (*b*) wherever and whenever necessary, differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic" wage means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The first declaration of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week.

The variations in the annual declarations of the Court of Arbitration are shown in the following table :—

Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.				South-West Land Division.				Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
1st July, 1926 ..	4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11	
,, ,, 1929 ..	4 7 0		2 7 0		4 7 0		2 7 0		*a*4 7 0		*a*2 7 0	
,, ,, 1930 ..	4 6 0		2 6 5		4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11	
,, ,, 1931 ..	3 18 0		2 2 2		3 17 0		2 1 8		3 17 0		2 1 8	
,, ,, 1932 ..	3 12 0		1 18 11		3 13 6		1 19 8		3 18 0		2 2 2	
,, ,, 1933 ..	3 8 0		1 16 9		3 9 6		1 17 6		3 17 6		2 1 10	
,, ,, 1934 ..	3 9 6		1 17 6		3 10 0		1 17 10		3 19 6		2 2 11	
,, ,, 1935 ..	3 10 6		1 18 1		3 11 2		1 18 5		4 4 4		2 5 6	
,, ,, 1936 ..	3 10 6		1 18 1		3 11 9		1 18 9		4 6 0		2 6 5	
,, ,, 1937 ..	3 13 9		1 19 10		3 14 8		2 0 4		4 7 0		2 7 0	
,, ,, 1938 ..	4 0 0		2 3 2		4 1 0		2 3 9		4 13 3		2 10 4	
,, ,, 1939 ..	*b*4 2 2		*b*2 4 4		4 3 1		2 4 10		*b*4 16 4		*b*2 12 0	
,, ,, 1940 ..	4 2 8		2 4 8		4 3 3		2 4 11		4 16 3		2 12 0	

(*a*) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.
(*b*) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.

The latest rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court are shown in para. (vii) on page 87.

(vi) *Tasmania.*—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Federal Court, and adjust wages in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers. The latest Commonwealth male rate for Hobart is £4 3s. operative from 1st February, 1941.

(vii) *Rates Prescribed.*—The "basic" wage rates of State industrial tribunals at present in force are summarized in the following table :—

Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.

State.	"Basic" Wage.		Date of Operation.	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	Males.	Females.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales	(*a*)4 8 0	2 7 6	1.2.41	(*e*)
Victoria	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)
Queensland ..	(*c*) 4 9 0	2 8 0	31.3.41	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia ..	4 4 0	2 1 0	28.11.40	,, ,, ,, ,,
Western Australia..	(*d*)4 8 0	2 7 6	28.4.41	,, ,, two ,,
Tasmania ..	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)

(*a*) Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla-Wollongong. Broken Hill—Males, £4 8s.; Females, £2 7s. 6d. Elsewhere—Males, £4 5s.; Females, £2 6s. Male wage plus child allowances.
(*b*) None declared, but follow Commonwealth rates to large extent.
(*c*) South-Eastern Division. Allowances are added for other Divisions :—Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.
(*d*) Metropolitan area. "Basic" wage for Gold-fields areas and other portions of State exclusive of the South-West Land Division—Males, £5 3s. 6d.; Females £2 15s. 11d. South-West Land Division (excluding Metropolitan area)—Males, £4 9s. 3d.; Females, £2 8s. 2d.
(*e*) Commonwealth Basic Wage operative—no defined family unit.

4. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into the actual cost of living at that time, according to reasonable standards of comfort including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man, wife and three children under fourteen years of age. The Commission made inquiries in each State, and its report, issued in 1920, recommended the following amounts for the various capital cities, namely. :—

	£ s. d.
Sydney	5 17 1
Melbourne	5 16 6
Brisbane	5 6 2
Adelaide	5 16 1
Perth	5 13 11
Hobart	5 16 11
Six Capitals (Weighted Average) ..	5 15 8

The recommendations of this Commission were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance of the amounts suggested over ruling rates* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

5. **Child Endowment.**—(i) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age has assumed importance in Australia,† and is in operation in certain instances.

* The "Harvester" equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.
† A complete survey of the systems in force in various countries is contained in Eleanor Rathbone's *Disinherited Family : A Plea for the Endowment of the Family*, and *The Case for Family Allowances.*

(ii) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The first attempt in Australia to institute the system was made in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, but the subject again came up in the session of 1926–27, when Acts, which have been amended during subsequent years, provided for the payment of child allowances. The original Act was assented to on 11th April, 1927, and allowances were paid as from 23rd July, 1927. Prior to December, 1929, the Act provided for (*a*) the declaration of a basic wage, and (*b*) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances were to be paid only to the extent to which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on 23rd December, 1929, provides that, subject to the last-mentioned provision, child endowment shall be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales were made from a fund created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax during 1930 was fixed at 1 per cent. From 1st July, 1931, the rate was fixed at 2 per cent., and from 1st January, 1932, at the rate of 5d. in the £ on all wages above £3 per week. The amount of levy collected during 1932–33 was £2,409,034, and £2,105,659 was paid away in allowances to 63,072 families. The levy was discontinued as from 1st January, 1934, the cost of endowment being met from the Special Income and Wages Tax (see p. 115), which is also used for other social services.

(iii) *Commonwealth Public Service.*—The first system of child endowment in Australia was instituted within the Commonwealth Public Service. It came into operation on 1st November, 1920, when, following on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage,* the Commonwealth Government decided to pay a basic wage of £4 a week in certain cases and child allowances to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limit of £400 per annum on salary plus allowance. As the result of proceedings before the Public Service Arbitrator in 1923, these allowances were confirmed as a permanent part of the salary scheme, and the necessary fund to meet them was created by deducting the average value of the payment from the basic wage of all adult officers. In effect, therefore, the officers are themselves providing the fund from which the allowance is paid. The deduction was originally £11 per annum, but is now £12. The payment of the allowance in the Service is now limited to officers receiving from salary and allowance an amount not greater than £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Report No. 17, and later Reports.

(iv) *National Scheme.*—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister

* The Chairman of the Commission (Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C.) in a Supplementary Report suggested that the wage of £5 16s. recommended by the Commission be split up into a flat basic wage payment of £4, and a child endowment of 12s. per week for each child, the fund for the payment of the latter allowance to be created by a tax on employers of 10s. 9d. per week per employee.

submitted various estimates of cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission, to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its Report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra during May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports are given in *Labour Report*, No. 19.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of Child Endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The main features of the scheme, which will operate from 1st July, 1941, are as follows :—

(*a*) Payment at the rate of 5s. per week for all children under the age of sixteen in excess of one child in each family, provided the persons claiming the endowment, and the child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed have resided in Australia for the period of twelve months preceding the date of claim.

(*b*) The endowment is payable to the mother of the child, or to such persons as are prescribed.

(*c*) The scheme will be financed partly from Consolidated Revenue, partly from the abolition of the exemptions from taxation in respect of children after the first and the major part from a tax of 2½ per cent. of all pay-rolls in excess of £20 per week.

(*d*) The general administration of the Act is under the control of the Secretary, Department of Social Services, and use is to be made of the machinery of the Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

The scheme at the outset is estimated to cost £13,000,000 per annum, and apply to approximately 1,000,000 children. The number of "first" children excluded is estimated to be approximately 830,000 or 45 per cent. of the total children under sixteen years of age. Investigation showed that 60 per cent. of married males had only one child.

Consequent upon the establishment of the National Scheme, appropriate steps will be taken for the termination of the schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service.

* Act No. 8, 1941 (Child Endowment Act); Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act); and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 29 while particulars for the year 1939 are furnished in the present Report.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1939.**—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1939 in industrial groups. A list of the 14 groups included in the classification will be found in the preface.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1939 was 416, as compared with 376 during the previous year. In New South Wales 386 disputes occurred, 357 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1939 amounted to 459,154 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 1,337,994 working days lost during 1938. The estimated loss of wages was £455,716 in 1939, as compared with £1,303,820 for year 1938.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1939.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
	New South Wales—							£
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	5	14	670	4,839	5,509	55,191	52,350
III.	Food, drink, etc.	3	3	1,939	..	1,939	22,287	14,600
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	1	1	158	..	158	316	378
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	214	262	476	18,184	9,375
VII.	Building	3	3	41	16	57	563	424
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	357	418	132,587	4,106	136,693	274,261	318,577
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	95	..	95	380	400
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	44	..	44	1,056	800
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	1,663	..	1,663	29,934	17,414
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	12	16	1,890	7	1,897	8,011	5,012
	Total	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
	Victoria—							
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	20	..	20	20	16
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	2	58	..	58	98	42
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	68	..	68	272	118
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	1	1	1,000	..	1,000	16,000	15,500
XIV.	Miscellaneous	5	5	843	180	1,023	10,923	4,270
	Total	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1939—*continued.*

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
	Queensland—							£
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	2	132	..	132	396	400
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	2	2	80	2	82	764	913
XIV.	Miscellaneous	2	2	161	..	161	710	440
	Total	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	South Australia—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc..	1	1	25	5	30	1,590	1,311
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	145	..	145	290	105
	Total	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	Western Australia—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	2	2	148	1	149	590	450
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	244	35	279	9,765	4,500
VIII.	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	3	3	696	109	805	3,425	4,328
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	20	..	20	320	300
	Total	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	Tasmania—							
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	2	2	17	..	17	42	43
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	16	..	16	64	..
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	20	..	20	60	50
	Total	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	Northern Territory—							
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	Australia—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	8	17	843	4,845	5,688	57,371	54,111
III.	Food, drink, etc.	5	5	2,203	35	2,238	32,072	19,116
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	3	3	216	..	216	414	420
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	2	132	..	132	396	400
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	3	3	282	262	544	18,456	9,493
VII.	Building	3	3	41	16	57	563	424
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	362	423	133,684	4,108	137,792	291,067	335,033
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	4	4	791	109	900	3,805	4,728
IX.	Railway and tramway services	3	17	278	40	318	4,698	4,400
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	3	3	1,699	..	1,699	30,318	17,714
XIV.	Miscellaneous	21	25	3,059	187	3,246	19,994	9,877
	Total (*c*)	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716

(*c*) The following dispute commenced in, and was uncompleted at the end of, the year 1938, and in respect of " No. of Disputes " and " No. of Establishments " is duplicated in the figures for 1939, viz. :—

State.	No of Disputes.	No. of Establishments.	No. of Workpeople Involved.
New South Wales	1	1	1,663

3. Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1939.—(i) *General.*—The preceding tables show the number and effect of all disputes for the year 1939 classified according to Industrial Groups. The figures show an increase compared with those of the previous year as regards number of working days and amount of wages lost. The tables show that of the total number of

disputes (416) which occurred in 1939, no less than 362 were in connexion with the coal-mining industry, and of these 357 occurred in New South Wales. The total loss of wages through all disputes in Australia was £455,716. The loss through 357 disputes in the coal-mining industry in New South Wales was £318,577, or 70 per cent. of the total loss in wages for Australia.

(ii) *Details regarding Principal Disputes.*—The losses in working days for all disputes for the year amounted to 459,154. Brief particulars of the disputes mainly responsible for losses in working days and wages in 1939 are given below :—

Interstate.—Disputes which extend beyond the limits of a single State, while in some cases extensive, are comparatively few in number. These disputes rarely start on an interstate basis, but develop into such through the interdependence of trade union organizations.

During 1939 no such dispute occurred.

New South Wales.—A proposed reduction in bonus rates was given as the cause of a dispute involving about 400 rubber workers at the works of the Dunlop-Perdriau Rubber Co. Ltd. at Drummoyne in April, 1939. Efforts to settle the dispute by direct negotiations were unavailing, and the employees refused to obey an order by the union that they return to work. An application by the employers to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the de-registration of the union and the suspension or cancellation of an award of the Court was adjourned pending the result of a compulsory conference called by Judge Drake-Brockman. This conference succeeded in settling the dispute and work was resumed after a stoppage of about six weeks, the application for de-registration being allowed to stand over.

A stoppage involving about 300 coal-miners at Elrington Colliery in April, 1939, was reported to have been caused by the failure of the management to adhere to the principle of " seniority " when manning the coal-loader. The dispute lasted for about ten weeks, and was finally settled by negotiations between the management and representatives of the employees.

The dismissal of an employee who was alleged to be unfit for work was given as the cause of a stoppage involving coal-miners at the Pelton Colliery, Bellbird, in May, 1939. Several attempts to arrive at a satisfactory settlement of the dispute were unsuccessful, and the mine remained idle for nearly three months. Finally a settlement was arrived at by the management undertaking to find suitable work for the employee, and work was resumed.

A claim by engine-drivers and firemen for higher wages and improved working conditions was the cause of a stoppage of work by the employees of ten engineering and metal trade firms in Sydney in May, 1939. Negotiations between the employers and employees having failed to effect a settlement, a compulsory conference was ordered by Judge O'Mara, of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. At this conference both sides agreed to accept the terms of settlement, which provided that the grievances of the employees should be referred to the Court. Besides approximately 120 engine-drivers directly involved in the dispute, about 1,500 other persons in the industry were idle for nine days.

More than 3,000 persons employed in the mining industry at Broken Hill were thrown idle by a dispute involving about 40 engine-drivers and firemen at the Central Power Station in June, 1939. The cause of the dispute was the alleged unfair treatment by the manager of a member of the union. After a stoppage of about two weeks, negotiations between the management and representatives of the union brought about a settlement of the dispute, the management agreeing to give the employee concerned six months' trial on the job to which he considered he was entitled.

As a protest against the " National Register " coal-mining employees in New South Wales stopped work for one day in July, 1939. There was no dispute with the employers and work was resumed next day without negotiations.

Objection to the action of the Commissioner in transferring a man to a lighter job was given as the cause of a dispute affecting employees of the Metropolitan Meat Industry Commission at Homebush Abattoirs in November, 1939. Approximately 200 sheep slaughtermen ceased work, and an application was made by the employers to the Industrial Commission for the de-registration of the union and cancellation of the preference clause in the award. A conference convened by Mr. Justice Cantor failed to find a basis for settlement of the dispute, and the Industrial Commission decided that the union would be de-registered and the preference clause abolished unless work was resumed immediately. As a protest against this decision the remainder of the employees (about 1,300) ceased work. A conference was then called by the Minister for Labour and Industry (Mr. Gollan) and terms of settlement were agreed to by representatives of the parties involved. These terms provided that if work was resumed the employers would not oppose re-registration of the union and restoration of the preference clause, and that minor points in dispute would be discussed at a conference of the parties after work was resumed. The employees returned to work after a stoppage lasting more than two weeks.

Victoria.—Objection to a clause in the interim award which provided for an eight-hour day exclusive of half an hour meal break instead of an eight-hour day inclusive of the meal break as provided in the old award, was the cause of a dispute at the State Coal Mine, Wonthaggi, in July, 1939. After a stoppage of about three weeks the employees decided to accept the terms for settlement arrived at by a compulsory conference convened under the authority of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. The terms provided that surface hands should work the eight-and-a-half-hour shift under the new award, on condition that, if the Full Court decided they should only work eight hours, they would be paid for the additional half-hour at ordinary rates as from the date of resumption of work up till the date of the order of the Full Arbitration Court.

Western Australia.—Failure by the employees to obtain an agreement involving shorter hours and increased wages was given as the cause of a stoppage of work in the biscuit manufacturing industry at Fremantle in July, 1939. The dispute, which involved nearly 300 workers and lasted for about six weeks, was finally settled by intervention of the President of the State Arbitration Court. The most important of the terms of settlement was that the employers agreed to retire from a long-dated agreement under which the employees carried on for years and to negotiate for a new awar l

4. Industrial Disputes, 1935 to 1939.—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1935 to 1939, and the aggregate for the whole period :—

Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Year.	Manufacturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscellaneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			Coal-mining.	Other Mining.			
			NUMBER.				
1935 ..	21	4	108	9	21	20	183
1936 ..	30	3	171	13	3	15	235
1937 ..	59	2	249	12	6	14	342
1938 ..	43	3	314	6	4	6	376
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1935–39 ..	173	15	1,204	44	40	76	1,552
			WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.				
1935 ..	4,086	49	31,519	2,795	6,142	2,731	47,322
1936 ..	5,480	581	45,600	7,022	375	1,529	60,587
1937 ..	17,353	30	72,492	3,543	574	2,181	96,173
1938 ..	12,822	4,270	122,379	1,820	1,870	793	143,954
1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1935–39 ..	48,559	4,987	409,782	16,080	10,978	10,480	500,866
			WORKING DAYS LOST.				
1935 ..	62,423	1,294	162,633	64,824	100,774	103,176	495,124
1936 ..	199,641	2,337	224,113	37,582	8,087	25,488	497,248
1937 ..	214,869	180	307,699	20,736	2,959	10,668	557,111
1938 ..	294,062	34,520	928,860	20,224	59,068	1,260	1,337,994
1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1935–39 ..	879,704	38,894	1,914,372	147,171	205,904	160,586	3,346,631
			ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ..	47,079	1,143	164,648	57,791	61,249	58,686	390,596
1936 ..	160,259	1,846	249,767	36,408	5,480	15,065	468,825
1937 ..	165,618	211	313,052	20,133	2,572	5,159	506,745
1938 ..	239,222	31,847	973,659	23,103	35,062	927	1,303,820
1939 ..	83,540	424	335,033	4,728	22,114	9,877	455,716
1935–39 ..	695,718	35,471	2,036,159	142,163	126,477	89,714	3,125,702

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). For the year 1939 these disputes represented 87 per cent. of the total for the year.

During the past five years, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 1,914,372, representing 57 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any of the other States.

(ii) *States.*—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1935 to 1939, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given hereunder.

Industrial Disputes: States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly	Total.		
								£
New South Wales	1935	134	162	31,350	2,055	33,405	301,345	237,707
	1936	188	231	50,557	1,728	52,285	432,513	414,375
	1937	296	391	84,323	3,515	87,838	434,617	403,158
	1938	340	483	116,378	8,160	124,538	1,029,427	1,012,915
	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
Victoria	1935	20	30	7,658	243	7,901	45,713	31,280
	1936	10	22	1,599	224	1,823	12,251	9,899
	1937	11	11	3,770	44	3,814	70,753	57,182
	1938	19	38	7,678	2,612	10,290	104,336	87,595
	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
Queensland	1935	13	29	1,794	201	1,995	73,351	57,960
	1936	12	12	1,052	194	1,246	14,653	12,325
	1937	10	11	792	203	995	15,681	15,699
	1938	5	9	2,657	..	2,657	87,539	87,379
	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
South Australia	1935	3	5	340	..	340	2,463	1,557
	1936	1	1	101	..	101	505	400
	1937	6	15	1,257	52	1,309	3,951	2,464
	1938	2	2	73	52	125	249	223
	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
Western Australia	1935	11	29	3,597	6	3,603	71,976	61,901
	1936	19	49	3,408	1,309	4,717	32,408	27,714
	1937	12	45	1,445	220	1,665	14,397	12,570
	1938	7	21	2,994	650	3,644	43,768	43,278
	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
Tasmania	1935	1	1	70	4	74	148	91
	1936	4	4	369	6	375	3,718	3,212
	1937	4	7	374	5	379	17,016	14,964
	1938	2	4	2,200	..	2,200	72,175	72,030
	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
Northern Territory	1935	1	1	4	..	4	128	100
	1936	1	1	32	8	40	1,200	900
	1937	3	3	160	13	173	696	708
	1938	1	1	500	..	500	500	400
	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
Aust. Cap. Territory	1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1938	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	1935	183	257	44,813	2,509	47,322	495,124	390,596
	1936	235	320	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	483	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	558	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820
	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716

5. **Duration of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(*a*) One day or less ; (*b*) two days and more than one day ; (*c*) three days and more than two days ; (*d*) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week) ; (*e*) one week and under two weeks ; (*f*) two weeks and under four weeks ; (*g*) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (*h*) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1935 *to* 1939.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1935 to 1939 are given in the table appended :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
							£
1 day and less	1935	50	13,619	570	14,189	14,189	14,977
	1936	89	20,378	845	21,223	21,223	23,564
	1937	140	41,050	966	42,016	42,016	44,649
	1938	196	68,015	813	68,828	68,828	77,346
	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	106,970
2 days and more than 1 day	1935	34	8,173	327	8,500	17,000	16,959
	1936	37	9,176	403	9,579	19,156	20,382
	1937	72	17,695	307	18,002	36,004	36,749
	1938	56	15,928	462	16,390	32,780	33,069
	1939	60	16,398	872	17,270	34,540	35,648
3 days and more than 2 days	1935	12	2,900	206	3,106	9,318	9,555
	1936	19	4,636	685	5,321	15,963	16,923
	1937	20	5,776	55	5,831	17,493	19,444
	1938	38	8,869	793	9,662	28,986	31,233
	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	34,431	36,427
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days)	1935	15	2,333	132	2,465	10,780	11,076
	1936	33	8,252	545	8,797	38,170	38,853
	1937	37	11,041	1,177	12,218	56,114	53,330
	1938	27	6,469	675	7,144	31,558	33,159
	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1935	29	4,727	108	4,835	41,966	38,043
	1936	25	6,774	173	6,947	46,511	48,248
	1937	40	7,312	947	8,259	62,352	60,061
	1938	30	7,826	5,971	13,797	115,605	98,218
	1939	34	6,864	2,169	9,033	75,323	67,736
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1935	20	4,910	817	5,727	88,499	68,454
	1936	16	2,884	424	3,308	53,261	46,705
	1937	16	3,418	202	3,620	52,241	44,986
	1938	11	1,461	101	1,562	23,534	21,256
	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1935	14	6,541	185	6,726	170,255	134,693
	1936	10	1,170	114	1,284	37,704	28,671
	1937	9	3,546	218	3,764	129,688	95,807
	1938	13	23,376	1,327	24,703	887,172	883,426
	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,908
8 weeks and over	1935	9	1,610	164	1,774	143,117	96,839
	1936	6	3,848	280	4,128	265,260	245,479
	1937	8	2,283	180	2,463	161,203	151,719
	1938	5	536	1,332	1,868	149,531	126,113
	1939	4	519	61	580	39,453	39,089
Total	1935	183	44,813	2,509	47,322	495,124	390,596
	1936	235	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,094	1,303,820
	1939	416	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716

6. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, namely :—(1) Wages ; (2) hours of labour ; (3) trade unionism ; (4) employment of particular classes or persons ; (5) working conditions ; (6) sympathy ; and (7) other causes.* The first five groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia, 1913 and 1933 to 1939.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
NUMBER.								
1. Wages—								
(*a*) For increase ..	42	1	10	9	16	28	10	13
(*b*) Against decrease ..	4	4	3	5	1	1	2	4
(*c*) Other wage questions	31	14	31	44	48	77	67	58
2. Hours of Labour—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	3	..	..	..	1	2	2	12
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	7	7	6	2	4	4	1	9
3. Trade Unionism—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists..	8	1	4	4	4	5	5	1
(*b*) Other union questions	5	3	8	12	16	24	43	48
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	35	52	53	81	80	106	107
5. Working conditions ..	51	9	25	40	43	72	73	90
6. Sympathy	5	..	3	1	5	11	4	1
7. Other causes	8	16	13	13	16	38	63	73
Total	208	90	155	183	235	342	376	416
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
1. Wages—								
(*a*) For increase ..	8,633	29	7,210	2,161	2,014	7,678	967	4,384
(*b*) Against decrease ..	563	2,178	2,817	339	40	15	914	279
(*c*) Other wage questions	7,160	4,336	8,335	11,804	12,930	21,588	21,399	17,094
2. Hours of Labour—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	460	..	..	..	20	429	4,050	4,150
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	1,819	2,620	309	1,601	488	1,474	36	3,383
3. Trade Unionism—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists..	5,370	89	383	581	1,612	3,542	1,659	21
(*b*) Other union questions	1,418	705	2,184	2,532	4,011	5,889	13,241	16,030
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	11,803	15,638	11,497	22,978	20,401	30,020	28,691
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	4,503	6,062	11,298	10,985	17,854	40,206	28,092
6. Sympathy	947	..	1,045	22	1,062	3,235	1,260	2,600
7. Other causes	1,758	3,850	6,875	5,487	4,447	14,068	30,202	48,106
Total	50,283	30,113	50,858	47,322	60,587	96,173	143,954	152,830

* The heading "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following :—(*a*) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery ; (*b*) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) rise betwe n wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—*continued.*

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
1. **Wages**—								
(*a*) For increase ..	100,069	87	108,277	72,567	33,439	144,372	32,390	24,115
(*b*) Against decrease ..	9,438	17,431	35,459	1,621	120	30	7,340	4,472
(*c*) Other wage questions	78,183	18,736	40,219	73,020	32,068	107,904	116,468	67,550
2. **Hours of Labour**—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	2,774	..	..	..	340	1,897	34,300	21,036
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	15,111	8,895	1,748	48,878	9,577	4,442	900	10,752
3. **Trade Unionism**—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists..	91,002	89	3,263	2,615	7,509	20,750	2,906	63
(*b*) Other union questions	32,388	1,421	10,774	11,696	9,616	9,569	80,280	52,056
4. **Employment of particular classes or persons** ..	191,723	31,799	110,166	144,453	266,310	138,428	104,454	81,101
5. **Working conditions** ..	73,562	22,865	26,223	64,612	119,475	85,746	744,147	108,409
6. **Sympathy**	24,066	..	11,174	44	10,209	11,230	4,440	2,600
7. **Other causes**	5,212	10,633	23,083	75,618	8,585	32,743	210,369	86,370
Total	623,528	111,956	370,386	495,124	497,248	557,111	1337994	459,154

The main causes of industrial disputes are "wage" questions, "working conditions," and "employment of particular classes or persons."

The number of disputes concerning "wages" in 1939 was 75, representing 18 per cent. of the total. The heading "Employment of particular classes or persons" includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who were considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over "Employment" questions in 1939 numbered 107, or 26 per cent. of the total, and over "Working Conditions" 90, or 22 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 272, or 65 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

7. **Results of Industrial Disputes**—(i) *General.*—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes, namely :—

(*a*) In favour of workpeople ; (*b*) In favour of employer ; (*c*) Compromise ; (*d*) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result :—(*a*) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers ; (*b*) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand ; (*c*) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers ; (*d*) Indefinite, when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained ; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally "Indefinite" except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State*, 1939.—The following table shows the industrial disputes in 1939, classified according to results.

Industrial Disputes: Results, 1939.

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of orkpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	65	290	16	15	20,872	115,939	5,693	6,027	81,578	250,482	35,329	44,054
Victoria ..	4	4	1	1	1,360	491	300	18	19,100	1,595	6,600	18
Queensland ..	..	3	1	1	..	185	40	150	..	590	440	600
South Australia	..	1	..	1	..	30	..	145	..	570	..	200
Western Australia	4	2	..	1	199	775	..	279	1,060	3,275	..	9,765
Tasmania ..	1	2	..	1	12	25	..	16	12	90	..	64
N. Territory ..	1	..	1	..	74	..	200	..	2,442	..	1,200	..
A. C. Territory..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Aust. ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791

(iii) *Australia*, 1939.—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the year 1939, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

Industrial Disputes: Causes and Results, Australia, 1939.

Classified according to Causes and Results.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—												
(*a*) For increase	5	5	2	1	786	1,670	1,884	44	2,430	7,641	12,988	1,056
(*b*) Against decrease ..	2	1	..	1	104	30	..	145	2,592	1,590	..	290
(*c*) Other Wage questions ..	10	40	4	4	2,671	12,085	1,092	1,246	8,838	53,702	1,354	3,656
Hours of Labour—												
(*a*) For reduction	3	7	..	2	920	2,933	..	1,237	5,420	6,433	..	9,783
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	4	5	..	..	1,599	1,784	..	..	1,599	9,153	..	..
Trade Unionism—												
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists	1	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	63	..	..	..
(*b*) Other union questions ..	2	44	..	2	801	13,310	..	1,919	801	21,095	..	30,190
Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..	21	71	10	5	4,973	19,813	2,138	857	9,415	59,782	7,156	4,748
Working conditions ..	23	61	2	4	8,961	17,259	819	1,053	56,035	32,371	15,471	4,532
Sympathy ..	..	1	..	..	..	2,600	..	..	..	2,600	..	..
Other Causes ..	4	67	1	1	1,681	45,961	300	134	16,999	62,235	6,600	536
Total ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791

(iv) *Australia*, 1935 *to* 1939.—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the five years 1935 to 1939, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes: Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1935 ..	44	105	17	15	9,312	30,338	4,359	3,179	67,933	346,666	62,007	10,194
1936 ..	44	165	7	19	13,997	40,279	908	5,403	248,363	179,748	7,027	62,110
1937 ..	86	206	7	41	23,939	58,665	713	12,273	192,181	285,755	3,744	37,395
1938 ..	94	229	18	34	24,953	75,100	6,037	36,201	90,375	149,959	45,205	1,022,521
1939 ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but of late years the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1939 was 73. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

8. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

(i) By negotiation.
(ii) Under State Industrial Act.
(iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
(iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
(v) By closing down establishments permanently.
(vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia*, 1913 *and* 1933 *to* 1939—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	64	84	130	174	265	245	277
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	17	1	2	3	16	9	17	17
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	19	3	10	7	3	6	3	5
By reference to Board or Court	22	3	8	6	6	-	9	2
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	4	2	5	5	2	2	9	6
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	13	2	2	8	4	5	..	1
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	3	2	4	..	1	..	2
By other methods ..	13	11	40	18	30	48	92	106
Total	208	89	153	181	235	340	375	416
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	19,703	25,469	30,360	44,251	72,430	70,481	80,195
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	3,172	1,100	891	285	5,061	2,764	4,845	2,489
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	6,505	1,290	4,559	3,867	291	1,804	1,844	4,925
By reference to Board or Court	12,774	1,390	1,666	1,445	1,746	428	5,510	429
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	659	1,096	4,335	2,017	339	480	21,289	3,268
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	658	986	138	3,670	141	825	..	20
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	1,271	444	108	..	86	..	178
By other methods ..	2,988	3,213	13,092	5,436	8,758	16,773	38,313	61,326
Total	50,283	30,049	50,594	47,188	60,587	95,590	142,291	152,830

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—*continued.*

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	54,774	182,260	192,903	234,373	396,410	203,175	245,709
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	26,335	6,600	20,019	3,211	202,949	18,517	64,220	52,943
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	187,871	3,510	58,801	117,762	3,047	48,769	11,796	35,647
By reference to Board or Court	221,769	6,330	10,474	16,961	24,503	7,354	326,881	3,366
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	2,105	15,437	46,814	24,601	7,152	4,120	629,075	46,450
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	14,139	10,543	138	74,873	2,581	12,571	..	20
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	8,627	4,486	7,546	..	172	..	3,892
By other methods ..	56,509	6,071	41,322	48,943	22,643	31,162	72,913	71,127
Total	623,528	111,892	364,314	486,800	497,248	519,075	1,308,060	459,154

In each of the years included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 43 in 1925 and 78 in 1937. In 1939 the percentage was 67. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods," stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

§ 2. Fluctuations in Employment.

1. **General.**—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

From 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book*, *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and the Labour Reports. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the responsible officials of the various unions for the kindly readiness with which they supplied available data.

The particulars in the following tables are based on information furnished by the secretaries of trade unions, and the number of members of unions regularly reporting has now reached over 470,000, consisting predominantly of males and representing about 54 per cent. of the total trade union membership and between 20 and 25 per cent. of all wage and salary earners. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions the members of which are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, shearers, etc.). Very few unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are in close touch with the members and with the state of trade in their particular industries. In many cases unemployment registers are kept, and employers apply to the union officials when labour is required. Provision is also made in the rules for members out of work to pay reduced subscriptions.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter and exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted represent the average of the four quarters.

The value of the percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns is in the indication they give of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as reported by the secretaries of trade unions.

2. **Unemployment.**—(i) *Australia, 1891 to 1940* (June Quarter).—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1940 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

(*a*) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available, (*b*) The number of members of such unions, (*c*) The number of members unemployed, and (*d*) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment: Australia.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 end of year ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 „ „ ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 „ „ ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1907 „ „ ..	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 „ „ ..	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 „ „ ..	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 „ „ ..	109	32,995	1,857	5.6

Unemployment : Australia—*continued.*

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1911 end of year ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 „ „ ..	464	224,023	12,441	5.6
1913 (average for year) ..	462	246,068	16,054	6.5
1914 „ „ ..	459	268,938	22,344	8.3
1915 „ „ ..	470	276,215	25,663	9.3
1916 „ „ ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1917 „ „ ..	450	286,811	20,334	7.1
1918 „ „ ..	478	299,793	17,536	5.8
1919 „ „ ..	464	310,145	20,507	6.6
1920 „ „ ..	447	341,967	22,105	6.5
1921 „ „ ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 „ „ ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 „ „ ..	436	376,557	26,672	7.1
1924 „ „ ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 „ „ ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 „ „ ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 „ „ ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 „ „ ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 „ „ ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 „ „ ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1931 „ „ ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 „ „ ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0
1933 „ „ ..	394	415,305	104,035	25.1
1934 „ „ ..	394	424,035	86,865	20.5
1935 „ „ ..	396	435,938	71,823	16.5
1936 „ „ ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1937 „ „ ..	387	449,588	41,823	9.3
1938 „ „ ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7
1939 „ „ ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7
1937 Sept. Quarter ..	387	451,584	42,145	9.3
Dec. „ ..	387	455,608	37,558	8.2
1938 March „ ..	386	462,918	37,111	8.0
June „ ..	386	464,208	39,824	8.6
Sept. „ ..	394	468,634	43,092	9.2
Dec. „ ..	395	471,581	42,077	8.9
1939 March „ ..	395	474,277	45,545	9.6
June „ ..	398	477,149	45,183	9.5
September „ ..	397	478,000	48,888	10.2
December „ ..	392	478,245	44,253	9.3
1940 March „ ..	394	483,806	38,307	7.9
June „ ..	388	475,815	49,775	10.5

(ii) *Australia, by Industries*, 1939.—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc.,

are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative.

Unemployment in Industrial Groups : Australia, 1939.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
Manufacturing—				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	18,579	2,956	15.9
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	64	88,168	6,768	7.7
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	55	42,353	7,346	17.3
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	22	43,115	5,325	12.4
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	13	22,057	913	4.1
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	62	49,683	4,748	9 .6
VII. Building	46	53,070	4,685	8.8
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	21	25,982	3,320	12.8
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	14	19,557	1,543	7.9
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	83	114,354	8,363	7.3
All Groups	396	476,918	45,967	9.7

(iii) *Australia, by Industries, 1912, and Quarterly, 1938 to 1940.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1938 to the June quarter of 1940. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1912, End of Year.	1938.		1939.				1940.	
		Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	3.7	13.7	13.4	15.7	16.4	18.1	13.4	6.7	6.3
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	7.4	5.5	5.8	7.5	7.9	8.6	6.8	5.5	12.9
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	7.3	18.8	15.5	16.0	18.3	18.4	16.6	14.5	18.6
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	6.3	10.6	13.3	14.0	12.6	13.3	9.6	6.5	12.1
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	2.8	3.8	3.4	3.8	4.1	5.1	3.6	4.7	4.6
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	6.9	11.4	11.4	9.8	9.2	9.9	9.3	7.9	6.6
VII. Building	5.5	7.2	7.6	8.8	8.0	9 3	9.2	10.4	8.8
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	5.6	12.8	10.7	11.9	11.5	12.6	15.4	8.6	10.6
X. Other Land Transport ..	1.1	9.6	7.9	7.7	7.5	8.7	7.7	7.3	6.8
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	5.4	7.2	6.6	7.3	6.9	7.4	7.7	7.5	9.6
AUSTRALIA	5.6	9.2	8.9	9.6	9.5	10.2	9.3	7.9	10.5

(iv) *States, 1939.*—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are a more representative sample than for others. The State percentages shown below,

therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of the trend of unemployment as reported by the Trade Unions. The figures in the following table show the position in the various States for 1939 :—

Unemployment : 1939.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales	116	202,416	22,225	11.0
Victoria	78	125,628	13,032	10.4
Queensland	45	66,139	3,869	5.9
South Australia	56	39,442	3,672	9.3
Western Australia	66	32,834	2,324	7.1
Tasmania	35	10,459	845	8.1
Australia	396	476,918	45,967	9.7

(v) *States, 1927 to 1939 and Quarterly from 1936.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1935 were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1927 to 1939 and quarterly from 1936 onwards :—

Unemployment : Percentages.

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1927 Year.	7.0	7.4	5.9	7.2	5.4	11.1	7.0
1928 ,, ...	11.3	10.9	7.0	15.0	8.2	10.6	10.8
1929 ,, ...	11.5	11.1	7.1	15.7	9.9	12.8	11.1
1930 ,, ...	21.7	18.3	10.7	23.3	19.2	17.7	19.3
1931 ,, ...	30.8	25.8	16.2	32.5	27.3	26.1	27.4
1932 ,, ...	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933 ,, ...	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 ,, ...	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 ,, ...	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 ,, ...	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 ,, ...	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938 ,, ...	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939 ,, ...	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1936 March Qtr. ..	17.2	10.8	8.5	12.2	10.3	10.8	13.4
June ,, ..	16.2	10.6	8.5	11.0	9.2	9.4	12.8
Sept. ,, ..	14.8	11.7	7.2	10.0	7.4	9.8	12.0
Dec. ,, ..	13.3	9.7	7.2	9.9	5.6	9.1	10.7
1937 March Qtr. ..	11.8	9.5	7.7	9.5	5.4	7.8	9.9
June ,, ..	11.4	9.6	7.6	8.3	5.6	6.9	9.7
Sept. ,, ..	10.5	9.5	7.2	8.4	6.6	7.2	9.3
Dec. ,, ..	10.1	7.3	6.6	6.5	5.0	7.1	8.2
1938 March Qtr. ..	9.6	7.3	6.6	6.9	4.8	5.7	8.0
June ,, ..	9.8	8.5	7.2	7.5	5.3	7.2	8.6
Sept. ,, ..	10.0	9.7	6.3	10.0	6.1	8.5	9.2
Dec. ,, ..	10.1	9.0	5.7	8.8	6.5	10.2	8.9
1939 March Qtr. ..	10.6	10.8	6.1	9.3	7.3	7.6	9.6
June ,, ..	10.6	10.4	5.7	9.5	6.2	9.4	9.5
Sept. ,, ..	11.6	11.2	5.8	9.4	8.2	8.3	10.2
Dec. ,, ..	11.1	9.0	5.8	9.1	6.6	7.1	9.3
1940 March Qtr. ..	9.7	6.5	5.8	8.5	6.9	4.8	7.9
June ,, ..	15.9	6.6	6.8	8.3	5.6	5.0	10.5

3. **Causes of Unemployment.**—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(*a*) lack of work; (*b*) sickness and accident; and (*c*) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that

while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0·7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

4. **Seasonal Employment in Australia.**—An investigation concerning the extent of seasonal employment in Australia was made in 1928. The State Statisticians were invited to furnish brief reports regarding the industries and callings in their respective States subject to seasonal fluctuations, and from the reports received, supplemented by information from other sources, particulars were published in Labour Report, No. 19. The result of inquiries concerning the organization of public works in connexion with unemployment was also published in Labour Report, No. 19.

§ 3. Direct Measures of Employment.

1. **General.**—In order to supplement the trade union unemployment percentages, the Commonwealth and the State Statisticians have for the last five years been making direct monthly collections of employment in factories and retail stores. In the case of factories, these figures give fairly reliable indexes of the course of employment fully a year before the results of the annual collections become available. In the case of retail stores, the figures yield indexes of employment where none existed before. These indexes are also published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly in mimeographed statements.

2. **Index of Employment in Factories.**—This index is available monthly from July, 1933. "Factories" include all industrial establishments in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power other than hand is used. The index relates to employees on the pay-roll on the pay-day nearest to the 15th of the month, and includes managers, overseers, clerks and all workers except working proprietors and those engaged solely in the delivery and sale of goods.

Up to June, 1940, the index is based on the results of annual factory censuses, and actual mid-monthly factory employment of all persons is published in the *Production Bulletin* issued by this Bureau. Index-numbers for later months, based on returns from selected representative factories, and subject to subsequent revision, may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* amd quarterly press notices on employment issued by this Bureau. The number of these "sample" factories and their employees as a percentage of all factory employees in the year 1939–40 are shown at the foot of the table.

For the last three columns of the table the Australian index of employment has been divided by an index of employee population in order to compare the change in employment in factories with the change in the number of persons seeking employment generally. The indexes of employee population are based on the numbers of males and females between the ages of 16 and 64 inclusive. These are found by applying vital and migration statistics to the numbers of males and females at varying ages at the Census date. The total index is obtained by taking a mean of the individual indexes weighted by the numbers of males and females in the employee group (wage and salary earners, unemployed, apprentices, and helpers) at the Census of June, 1933. This gives males about three times the weight of females.

The index of total factory employment divided by the index of employee population fluctuated between 100 and 105 from 1926–27 to 1928–29 (the base year). It fell to 71 in 1931–32, the peak year of the depression, and then rose steadily each year thereafter to 111.6 in 1938–39. The relative employment in factories was considerably higher in 1938–39 than it was in pre-depression years.

There have been changes in the distribution of factory employment. Thus female factory employment began to increase in 1931–32, a year sooner than male employment, and between 1928–29 and 1936–37 it increased by 4 per cent. more than male employment, after allowing for the growth of employee population. The figures for 1937–38 show that this difference was reduced to 2 per cent. during that period and this margin was maintained in 1938–39.

3. **Index of Employment in Retail Stores.**—This index is available as from July, 1933. It is based on employment in a " sample " of retail stores, the number of establishments being shown at the foot of the table. As there is no annual census of employment in retail stores, there is no means of knowing how accurately the movement of employment in these stores represents that in the whole field. Consequently this index is much less reliable than the index of employment in factories. The Australian index is an average of the State indexes weighted by the number of persons returned as engaged in " Commerce " at the Census of June, 1933. This census industry class " Commerce " comprises both wholesale and retail dealing, and it is not possible to obtain separate figures for the latter. The numbers returned at the census as in the employee group in this class were, for Australia : Males, 212,000 ; females, 87,000 ; total, 299,000. The respective percentages returned as totally unemployed in this group were : Males, 18.1 per cent. ; females, 10.6 per cent. ; total, 15.9 per cent. In addition there was considerable part-time work.

Unemployment in the census class " Manufacturing " was 22.1 per cent. compared with 15.9 per cent., quoted above, for " Commerce ". In either case the increase in employment has been more than sufficient to absorb those returned as unemployed and working part-time at the census, as well as the proportion of the normal growth of employee population ordinarily seeking employment in these classes.

4. **Estimates of Total Employment in New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania.**—The New South Wales Index is published by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and fuller details may be found in the *Official Year Book of New South Wales*. It refers to all wage and salary earners, and is based on the census record of employment at June, 1933, receipts of wages tax, and records of government employment since that date. Owing to the effect of enlistments and entry into wage-earning employment of persons not normally wage earners this index of employment and unemployment has been discontinued since April, 1940. A table showing the approximate number of persons employed in the middle of June in the years 1934 to 1940, with the figures at the Census of June, 1933, is published herein and corresponding monthly totals are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

The Queensland Index published by the Queensland Bureau of Industry is compiled from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns. Enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training. The figures shown for the three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation.

The Tasmanian estimate of employment is published by this Bureau and is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment.

Index of Employment in Retail Stores.

(*Base : July*, 1933 = 100)

Month.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aust.	Australian Index divided by Index of Employee Population.
1933 July	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0	100.0
1933–34	103	107	101	102	99	106	103.7	103.2
1934–35	111	118	106	108	105	108	111.6	109.8
1935–36	118	130	109	114	110	112	119.4	116.2
1936–37	124	137	111	115	115	119	124.7	120.1
1937–38	130	141	112	115	116	118	128.3	122.2
1938–39	132	142	114	114	116	133	130.0	122.5
1939–40	132	144	117	112	115	139	130.9	(*a*)
1936–37 July ..	122	130	109	116	113	107	121.2	117.3
August ..	120	128	109	115	111	113	119.8	115.8
September ..	120	128	109	118	113	115	120.2	116.1
October ..	121	133	110	112	116	116	121.9	117.6
November ..	123	139	111	115	116	119	125.1	120.6
December ..	137	155	121	125	127	132	138.5	133.4
January ..	123	138	112	112	116	120	124.5	119.8
February ..	125	137	111	111	114	122	124.7	120.0
March ..	123	135	111	111	114	118	123.2	118.4
April ..	124	136	109	113	114	120	123.9	118.9
May ..	126	138	111	114	113	121	125.6	120.4
June ..	126	141	110	114	113	121	126.4	121.1
1937–38 July ..	129	137	110	115	115	124	126.6	121.2
August ..	126	133	110	112	113	121	123.7	118.4
September ..	126	135	110	117	115	123	124.9	119.4
October ..	127	140	110	113	114	123	126.7	121.0
November ..	129	143	110	115	116	125	128.8	122.9
December ..	144	161	123	129	126	138	143.9	137.1
January ..	128	144	111	115	122	126	128.9	122.7
February ..	131	139	111	112	116	124	127.9	121.7
March ..	128	140	110	112	115	123	126.7	120.5
April ..	129	140	112	113	117	125	127.7	121.4
May ..	129	141	112	114	115	126	128.3	121.7
June ..	131	142	113	114	114	126	129.1	122.4
1938–39 July ..	134	139	111	114	120	130	129.4	122.5
August ..	129	135	111	112	113	127	126.0	119.2
September ..	128	137	111	118	114	127	126.7	119.8
October ..	129	142	110	113	115	128	128.0	120.9
November ..	132	146	115	116	116	130	131.3	123.9
December ..	148	165	127	124	131	146	146.9	138.5
January ..	129	142	113	111	120	137	128.8	121.3
February ..	134	141	113	112	113	131	129.8	122.2
March ..	129	139	113	111	113	132	127.2	119.6
April ..	129	139	112	111	113	133	127.4	119.7
May ..	131	141	114	111	113	134	128.7	120.8
June ..	130	142	118	113	113	138	129.5	121.4
1939–40 July ..	133	138	116	110	119	138	129.4	
August ..	120	137	114	109	114	134	126.8	
September ..	129	137	114	112	111	133	126.6	
October ..	130	141	114	109	111	135	128.1	
November ..	133	147	117	111	113	139	131.6	
December ..	148	165	131	127	125	154	147.8	
January ..	132	144	117	111	118	144	130.9	(*a*)
February ..	135	139	114	110	115	138	130.0	
March ..	131	140	114	110	116	137	128.6	
April ..	129	144	116	111	115	137	129.5	
May ..	130	145	116	111	114	139	130.4	
June(*b*) ..	130	149	116	111	114	138	131.1	
Number of establishments now furnishing returns ..	599	102	120	35	69	14	939	..

(*a*) Not available pending revision.

(*b*) Indexes for later months may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly press notices on employment, issued by this Bureau.

Index of Employment in Factories.

(*Base : Average for Year* 1928–29 = 100)

Period.	New South Wales.			Victoria.			Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.			Australia.			Australian Index divided by Index of Employee Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of employees in the base year 1928–29 ('000) (*a*)	129.5	44.6	174.1	98.1	51.2	149.3	35.6	7.8	43.4	29.0	6 4	35.4	16.0	3.8	19.8	7.7	2.3	10.0	315.9	116.1	432.0	..	..	..
1927–28	99	97	98	100	98	100	101	92	99	106	106	106	98	97	98	107	104	106	100.4	97.8	99.7	102.5	99.8	101.7
1928–29	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1929–30	90	91	90	96	98	96	95	94	94	87	89	87	94	98	94	105	99	104	92.4	94.6	93.0	91.0	92.9	91.5
1930–31	68	75	70	78	83	80	83	85	84	63	71	64	68	76	69	85	83	84	72.9	79.1	74.6	71.0	76.4	72.4
1931–32	66	79	69	77	90	81	78	84	79	61	76	64	61	75	63	84	87	85	70.4	84.1	74.1	67.7	80.0	71.0
1932–33	73	86	76	87	101	92	80	92	82	68	84	71	68	81	70	86	90	87	77.6	93.1	81.8	73.7	87.3	77.4
1933–34	82	94	85	96	107	100	86	99	88	77	89	80	75	85	77	93	89	92	86.2	99.4	89.7	80.8	92.0	84.0
1934–35	93	107	97	106	113	108	92	105	94	89	97	91	83	92	85	101	97	100	96.3	108.4	99.6	89.4	98.9	92.2
1935–36	104	116	107	117	119	117	97	110	99	104	110	105	99	106	100	112	103	110	107.0	116.2	109.4	98.4	105.0	100.2
1936–37	112	125	115	123	121	123	103	116	106	110	113	111	107	113	108	122	103	118	114.4	121.2	116.3	104.1	108.3	105.3
1937–38	121	134	124	131	126	130	112	123	114	120	121	121	110	116	111	130	108	125	122.9	128.0	124.3	110.7	113.0	111.3
1938–39	124	137	127	132	127	130	117	127	119	118	124	119	110	119	112	137	115	132	124.4	130.0	125.9	110.9	113.4	111.6
1939–40	127	142	131	139	134	137	120	132	122	120	136	123	107	123	110	145	126	140	128.9	136.7	131.0	(*c*)	(*c*)	(*c*)
1936 July	107	119	110	117	116	117	104	112	106	104	106	105	104	111	106	112	100	109	109.4	115.7	111.1	100.0	103.9	101.1
August	108	122	111	118	119	118	106	117	108	103	109	104	104	111	106	111	96	108	110.2	118.5	112.5	100.6	106.3	102.2
September ..	109	124	112	120	121	120	110	120	112	104	111	105	104	113	106	114	99	110	111.6	121.1	114.2	101.8	108.5	103.7
October	110	126	114	123	123	123	109	122	111	103	111	105	106	115	108	118	99	114	113.5	122.7	116.0	103.4	109.9	105.3
November ..	112	127	116	124	123	124	107	119	109	105	112	106	108	115	109	121	99	116	114.5	122.9	116.8	104.3	109.9	105.9
December	112	125	116	124	120	123	103	117	105	110	113	111	110	116	111	124	103	119	114.7	121.0	116.5	104.4	108.1	105.5
1937 January .. .	111	118	113	121	113	118	91	109	94	109	108	109	109	112	110	125	99	119	112.0	114.1	112.6	101.8	101.9	101.9
February	114	126	117	125	125	125	96	115	99	114	118	115	109	113	110	132	112	128	115.4	123.7	117.6	104.8	110.3	106.3
March	115	130	119	127	126	127	99	118	102	115	119	116	110	112	110	133	117	129	117.1	125.8	119.5	106.3	112.1	107.9
April	114	129	118	129	126	128	101	114	104	119	120	120	109	111	109	130	106	125	117.8	125.0	119.7	106.8	111.3	108.0
May	115	128	119	127	122	125	105	116	107	120	117	119	108	111	109	127	105	122	118.1	123.0	119.5	107.0	109.4	107.7
June	117	128	120	126	120	124	109	115	110	119	116	118	107	110	108	123	104	119	118.7	121.6	119.5	107.4	108.0	107.7
July	117	128	120	126	121	124	113	117	114	118	113	117	106	107	106	121	103	117	118.8	121.9	119.6	107.5	108.2	107.7
August	118	131	121	126	123	125	116	122	117	118	115	117	108	111	108	122	103	118	119.9	124.7	121.2	108.4	110.6	109.0
September ..	119	133	122	128	126	127	117	124	118	117	118	118	108	114	109	123	97	117	120.8	126.8	122.4	109.1	112.3	110.0
October	120	134	124	131	127	130	117	126	119	117	119	117	109	117	111	127	101	121	122.6	128.5	124.2	110.6	113.7	111.5
November ..	122	135	125	132	128	131	117	127	118	120	120	120	110	119	112	131	101	124	123.8	129.5	125.3	111.6	114.5	112.4
December	122	137	126	133	127	131	112	125	114	123	120	122	112	119	113	135	105	128	124.2	129.5	125.6	111.9	114.4	112.5

1938	January	121	128	123	130	119	126	100	115	103	122	120	121	110	115	111	135	114	130	121.5	121.8	121.6	109.4	107.5	108.9
	February	122	135	125	134	130	133	107	124	110	124	126	124	111	118	112	137	116	132	123.8	130.8	125.7	111.4	115.3	112.4
	March	123	138	127	136	133	135	111	125	113	124	130	125	113	117	114	137	120	133	125.6	133.2	127.6	112.9	117.3	114.0
	April	122	137	126	135	130	134	111	122	113	125	129	125	112	118	113	134	111	129	125.0	131.5	126.7	112.2	115.7	113.1
	May	123	137	127	134	127	132	113	123	115	121	124	122	111	117	112	133	112	128	124.7	130.0	126.2	111.9	114.3	112.6
	June	124	136	127	132	125	130	115	124	117	117	119	117	110	116	111	130	111	125	124.2	128.3	125.3	111.4	112.7	111.7
	July	122	134	125	130	124	128	118	123	119	115	119	115	109	117	111	127	109	123	122.6	126.8	123.8	109.8	111.3	110.2
	August	124	137	127	129	125	128	123	126	123	115	121	116	109	117	111	127	108	122	123.8	129.1	125.2	110.8	113.2	111.4
	September	124	138	127	130	127	129	123	127	124	115	122	116	109	119	111	131	105	125	124.3	130.5	126.0	111.2	114.3	112.0
	October	124	140	128	132	128	131	121	130	122	117	123	118	110	120	112	135	107	129	125.2	131.9	127.0	111.9	115.4	112.8
	November	124	140	128	133	129	132	120	131	122	117	124	118	111	120	113	136	106	129	125.5	132.1	127.3	112.1	115.5	113.0
	December	123	139	127	133	126	131	118	129	120	118	123	119	112	121	114	139	108	132	125.1	130.6	126.6	111.6	114.0	112.2
1939	January	122	129	123	130	118	126	107	121	110	120	123	120	109	118	111	143	121	138	122.3	122.5	122.4	109.0	106.9	108.4
	February	123	136	126	132	129	131	112	129	115	123	126	123	110	120	112	146	126	141	124.4	131.2	126.2	110.8	114.3	111.7
	March	125	139	128	133	132	133	113	133	117	123	130	125	110	119	112	145	124	140	125.6	134.0	127.9	111.8	116.7	113.1
	April	124	138	127	132	130	131	111	125	113	120	127	121	110	118	111	141	125	137	124.3	132.0	126.4	110.5	114.8	111.7
	May	124	137	127	133	127	131	117	128	119	117	126	118	110	121	112	139	117	134	125.0	130.3	126.5	111.1	113.7	111.7
	June	124	136	127	131	125	129	118	126	120	113	123	115	108	120	110	135	120	132	124.2	128.5	125.3	110.3	111.6	110.5
	July	123	134	126	131	125	129	121	127	122	117	123	118	106	120	109	132	116	129	124 4	128.3	125.4			
	August	124	137	127	131	128	130	124	130	125	118	125	119	107	117	108	133	112	128	124.8	130.6	126.3			
	September	124	139	128	133	129	132	125	134	126	117	129	119	106	120	109	134	108	128	125.6	132.5	127.4			
	October	127	142	131	137	132	135	126	137	128	117	131	120	107	124	110	139	113	133	128.6	135.0	130.5			
	November	129	145	133	140	134	138	123	137	126	118	134	120	108	127	111	144	116	138	130.2	137.9	132.2			
	December	131	144	134	141	132	138	119	133	121	121	134	124	109	128	112	146	117	140	131.0	136.8	132.5	(c)	(c)	(c)
1940	January	129	139	132	140	132	137	110	125	113	121	138	124	107	122	110	151	120	144	129.4	134.4	130.7			
	February	129	144	133	141	138	140	111	131	115	121	143	125	108	123	111	154	134	149	130.0	139.9	132.6			
	March	130	149	135	142	140	142	115	138	119	123	144	127	109	124	112	152	136	148	131.3	143.3	134.5			
	April	128	148	133	144	139	143	115	132	118	126	148	130	108	124	111	152	145	151	131.0	142.2	134.0			
	May	124	145	129	143	137	141	121	133	123	123	143	127	108	124	111	149	147	149	129.4	140.3	132.3			
	June(b)	129	145	133	142	135	139	126	130	126	121	141	124	106	123	110	147	150	147	131.5	138.8	133.4			
Number of Factories in Sample			1,901			100			150			147			92			49			2,439			2,439		
Percentage of employees(d) in sample in 1939–40			84			19			45			59			49			56			53			53		

(a) Exclusive of working proprietors and those engaged solely on the delivery and sale of goods.
(b) Indexes for later months may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly press notices on employment issued by this Bureau.
(c) Not available pending revision.
(d) The indexes from July, 1940, published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* are based on sample returns and will be revised. The samples vary in quality so these percentages are intended to give only a very rough idea of the relative accuracy of the estimates.

Employment and Unemployment of all Available Wage and Salary Earners : New South Wales.

Period.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment.			
	Including as employed the full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers.		Including all part-time relief workers as unemployed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	%	%	%	%
1933 June (Census)	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1933–34	77.9	22.1	75.9	24.1
1934–35	83.8	16.2	81.2	18.8
1935–36	88.6	11.4	86.1	13.9
1936–37	91.5	8.5	90.0	10.0
1937–38	95.7	4.3	94.5	5.5
1938–39	94.9	5.1	93.8	6.2
1938 June	96.1	3.9	95.1	4.9
1939 June	93.7	6.3	92.6	7.4
1940 January	94.4	5.6	93.6	6.4
February	95.1	4.9	94.4	5.6
March	95.6	4.4	94.9	5.1

Owing to the effect of enlistments and entry into wage-earning employment of persons not normally wage-earners, the index of employment and unemployment has been discontinued since April, 1940.

In estimating the increase in the number of persons dependent on employment allowance was made for (*a*) increase in the proportion of females who were wage-earners, and (*b*) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment was not made.

At the Census of 30th June, 1933, 15,142 persons dependent on employment in New South Wales were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, &c., or " voluntarily ". This number, representing 1.8 per cent. of all persons dependent on employment, is excluded from the above indexes, which relate to percentages of available wage-earners employed and unemployed.

The following table, compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, shows the approximate number of persons employed in the middle week of the months specified.

Employment : New South Wales.

Month.	Total in employment. (a)	Total in private employment.	Total employed in factories.	Number employed by employers with ten or more employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail trade.	Wholesale trade.	Offices and commerce.
1933 June (b) ..	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1934 June ..	639,646	518,645	162,700	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)
1935 June ..	694,815	567,110	182,200	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)
1936 June ..	741,934	613,631	199,200	18,995	47,653	22,792	25,543
1937 June ..	800,405	652,947	216,900	18,555	49,877	24,808	24,857
1938 June ..	839,511	688,881	229,000	20,980	51,921	25,212	26,297
1939 June ..	831,555	678,577	238,900	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
1940 June (d) ..	856,296	700.155	240.800	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,714

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers. (b) Census of 30th June. (c) Comparable figures not available. (d) Excluding men in the Forces who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

The following table has been compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns.

Employment : Queensland.

Period.	Numbers in Work.			
	Employees and Workers on own Account.	Employees.	Working for no Wages.	Total.
Average—				
1928–29	86,300	204,400	9,100	299,800
1932–33	93,100	184,600	9,400	287,100
1933–34	94,700	194,700	9,600	299,000
1934–35	96,800	214,500	9,700	321,000
1935–36	98,900	223,500	9,900	332,300
1936–37	100,900	234,500	10,100	345,500
1937–38	103,000	245,800	10,300	359,100
1938–39	105,100	257,700	10,500	373,300
1939–40	106,800	264,500	10,600	381,900
Three months ended—1939–40—				
July	106,100	265,800	10,500	382,400
August	106,200	263,500	10,600	380,300
September	106,400	261,000	10 600	378 000
October	106,500	260,900	10,600	378 000
November	106,600	262,300	10,600	379,500
December	106,600	261,300	10,600	378,500
January	106,700	264,200	10,600	381,500
February	106,900	267,500	10.600	385,000
March	107,000	268,300	10,600	385,900
April	107,100	267,800	10,600	385,500
May	107,100	265,800	10,600	383,500
June	107,000	267,500	10,700	385,200

In the table above enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment, and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training. The figures shown for the three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation.

Employment : Tasmania.

Period.	Private Industry.			Public Authorities.			Total Employment—Public and Private.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1936–37 ..	30,858	9,522	40,380	10,798	1,763	12,561	41,656	11,285	52,941
1937–38 ..	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938–39 ..	37,849	12,184	50,033	10,488	1,879	12,367	48,337	14,063	62,400
1939–40 ..	39,659	13,151	52,810	10,725	1,972	12,697	50,384	15,123	65,507
1938–39—									
January ..	39,006	13,249	52,255	10,249	1,784	12,033	49,255	15,033	64,288
February ..	39,435	12,850	52,285	10,624	1,913	12,537	50,059	14,763	64,822
March ..	41,728	13,616	55,344	10,637	1,903	12,540	52,365	15,519	67,884
April ..	39,825	12,543	52,368	10,187	1,895	12,082	50,012	14,438	64,450
May ..	38,863	12,191	51,054	10,111	1,911	12,022	48,974	14,102	63,076
June ..	36,964	11,883	48,847	10,208	1,925	12,133	47,172	13,808	60,980
1939–40—	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)				(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)
July ..	37,236	11,626	48,862	10,100	1,948	12,048	47,336	13,574	60,910
August ..	37,442	11,823	49,265	10,317	1,958	12,275	47,759	13,781	61,540
September ..	37,412	11,982	49,394	10,384	1,950	12,334	47,796	13,932	61,728
October ..	38,210	11,872	50,082	10,665	1,948	12,613	48,875	13,820	62,695
November ..	38,966	12,334	51,300	10,672	1,963	12,635	49,638	14,297	63,935
December ..	40,082	13,341	53,423	10,960	1,955	12,915	51,042	15,296	66,338
January ..	41,951	13,904	55,855	10,828	1,865	12,693	52,779	15,769	68,548
February ..	41,676	13,230	54,906	11,051	1,993	13,044	52,727	15,223	67,950
March ..	42,088	14,918	57,006	11,097	1,999	13,096	53,185	16,917	70,102
April ..	40,792	14,541	55,333	11,060	2,039	13,099	51,852	16,580	68,432
May ..	41,048	14,359	55,407	11,035	2,019	13,054	52,083	16,378	68,461
June ..	39,012	13,883	52,895	10,531	2,024	12,555	49,543	15,907	65,450

(*a*) Subject to revision.

The table above is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment.

For each month of 1938–39 the figures in the table may be regarded as providing a virtually complete record of total employment based on final collected figures. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment. They are deficient only to the inappreciable extent that some relief and other intermittent workers and domestic workers in private homes are not covered by the monthly returns. On the other hand, to the extent that they embrace the majority of workers subject to intermittent employment over the whole year, they reflect fully the seasonal and all other influences upon employment in Tasmania.

For the months since June, 1939, the figures are estimates based upon the current monthly movements of all public authority employment and of about 44 per cent. of total private employment. For a given month the figure of total private employment of the corresponding month of the previous year is changed in the ratio of the change of the current figure of private employment. The indication of the position for all employment in Tasmania given by this technical procedure must be read in the light of other indications of current change.

§ 4. Relief of Unemployment.

1. **Special Legislation for Relief of Unemployment.**—(i) *General.*—The position in regard to unemployment in Australia became so serious during 1930 that the usual methods of providing funds for relief work and sustenance were found to be inadequate. The cessation of loans, and the general depression in industry and business, due mainly to the decline in the prices of primary products, brought about an economic crisis in all

States. The number of persons thrown out of work increased rapidly, with little prospect of conditions improving during the immediate future. The various Governments realized that special action was necessary to provide additional funds to relieve the distress caused by continued unemployment, as the money ordinarily available was not sufficient to meet the abnormal conditions.

The steps taken by the Government to provide relief and the legislation enacted in the years 1930 to 1938 for that purpose are briefly reviewed in preceding issues of the Labour Report. Mention is made below of the legislation introduced in 1939, and a summary is given of the current methods employed for the raising of funds and the distribution of relief in the various States.

(ii) *Commonwealth.*—The contribution of the Commonwealth Government to the alleviation of distress due to unemployment was mainly in the form of direct grants and loans to the States, particulars of which will be found under paragraph 3 (i) of this section. The only persons for whom the Commonwealth was directly responsible were the unemployed in the Commonwealth Territories, references to which appear hereinafter. An Advisory Committee on Employment was appointed by the Commonwealth Government in September, 1932. The Committee ceased to function on the appointment of the Honorable (afterwards Sir) F. H. Stewart, M.P., as Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Employment on 9th November, 1934. Sir Frederick resigned from this position in February, 1936.

(iii) *New South Wales.*—Legislation passed in 1939–40 was as follows :—Unemployment Relief Tax (Management) Act No. 13 of 1939, Unemployment Relief Tax Act No. 14 of 1939, Taxation (Unemployment Relief and Social Services) Amendment Act No. 3 of 1940.

The Unemployment Relief Tax was discontinued on 30th November, 1933, and replaced by a Wages Tax on income from employment and a Special Income Tax on income from other sources. These were superseded on 1st October, 1939, by an Unemployment Relief Tax and a Social Services Tax, the taxes being levied as one tax and proceeds are apportioned, as follows :—

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF AND SOCIAL SERVICES TAXES (NEW SOUTH WALES).

(*a*) The proceeds of Wages and Special Income Taxes collected between 1st July, 1939, and 30th September, 1939, and arrears collected after 30th September, 1939, are payable to Unemployment Relief Fund.

(*b*) Proceeds of Combined Unemployment Relief and Social Services Taxes collections from 1st October, 1939, to 31st October, 1940, are apportioned two-thirds to Unemployment Relief Fund and one-third to Social Services Fund.

Collections since 1st November, 1940, are apportioned five-sevenths to Unemployment Relief Fund and two-sevenths to Social Services Fund.

The rates of Unemployment Relief and Social Services Tax are as follows :—

Wages Per Week.	Tax.	Wages Per Week.	Tax.
£ s. d. £ s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d. £ s. d.	s. d.
3 0 0 to 3 1 11	1 9	4 0 0 to 4 1 11	2 9
3 2 0 to 3 3 11	1 11	4 2 0 to 4 3 11	2 11
3 4 0 to 3 5 11	2 0	4 4 0 to 4 5 11	3 1
3 6 0 to 3 7 11	2 1	4 6 0 to 4 7 11	3 3
3 8 0 to 3 9 11	2 3	4 8 0 to 4 9 11	3 4
3 10 0 to 3 11 11	2 4	4 10 0 to 4 11 11	3 6
3 12 0 to 3 13 11	2 5	4 12 0 to 4 13 11	3 7
3 14 0 to 3 15 11	2 6	4 14 0 to 4 15 11	3 9
3 16 0 to 3 17 11	2 7	4 16 0 to 4 17 11	3 10
3 18 0 to 3 19 11	2 8	4 18 0 to 4 19 11	4 0

On wages of £5 to £20 per week the tax is 4s. 1d. on £5 to £5 1s. 11d. and 1d. for each additional 2s. or part thereof, except that 2d. is levied on that part of each £ exceeding 2s. but not exceeding 3s. 11d. Where the wages exceed £20 per week the tax is 17s. 10d. on the first £20 of wages and 1d. on each 1s. 8d. over £20. Employees maintaining a wife or a child under 16 years of age are exempt if they earn less than £4 4s. per week and other employees if they earn less than £3 ; for the latter group the limit of exemption was £2 a week from 1st October, 1939, to 30th April, 1940. Tax on wages and salaries at rates higher than the limit of exemption is payable on the full amount of pay without deduction except a tax rebate of 6d. per week for each dependent child under 16 years of age and for the wife of a married taxpayer.

Since 1st November, 1940, there has been rebate of tax where necessary to provide that the tax will not reduce the wages of the taxpayer below the taxable limit—Thus weekly wages (single person) of—

£3 0s. 1d.—tax according to Scale is 1s. 3d. reduced by rebate to 1d.
£3 1s. 0d.—tax according to Scale is 1s. 3d. reduced by rebate to 3d.

Married man (no children) (exemption in November, 1940, was £4 5s.).
£4 6s.—tax according to Scale is 2s. 9d. less 6d. for wife is 2s. 3d. reduced by rebate to 1s.

The rate of tax where no income is derived from wages is as follows (on income derived in 1938–39) :—

Net Assessable Income.	Rate of Tax per £.		
	1st £100.	2nd £100.	Balance.
	d.	d.	d.
Not exceeding £100	4	..	..
Over £100 but not over £156	4	..	7
Over £156 but not over £218	4	..	10
„ £218 „ „ „ £260	6	10	10½
„ £260 „ „ „ £312	7	10	10½
„ £312 „ „ „ £1,040 ..	7	10½	10½
„ £1,040..	9	10½	£800 at 10½d. Balance at 11½d.

Where the income is derived partly from wages and partly from other sources the rate is calculated in regard to total income. Persons resident in Australia whose income from all sources does not exceed £100 per annum

if single or £218 if married with dependent wife or child are not required to pay the tax, and pension derived by residents with total income not exceeding £200 is also exempt. A tax rebate of 26s. is allowed in respect of a wife and each dependent child under sixteen years of age.

Resident taxpayers whose total income derived in 1938–39 is less than £156 are allowed a rebate of two-ninths of the tax otherwise payable by them.

(iv) *Victoria.*—Legislation passed in 1939 was as follows :—Unemployment Relief Loan and Application Act 1939, No. 4656 ; and Unemployment Relief Tax (Rates) Act 1939, No. 4674.

The rates of tax are on a sliding scale according to salary, commencing at a rate of 1.85d. in the £ for incomes of £105 to £207 ; 2.32d. from £208 to £311 ; 2.37d. from £312 to £349 ; and so on up to a maximum rate of 8.17d. for incomes in excess of £3,000.

(v) *Queensland.*—The Income (State Development) Tax Act of 1938, which levies tax upon incomes from employment and other sources for the purpose of aiding in the improvement of the general economic welfare of the State and of employment generally was amended in 1939, increasing the exemption to the basic wage then determined by the Court—£219. The amended rates, which were operative from 7th August, 1939, are as follows :—

Income from Employment.(*a*)

Annual Rate of Income.	Rate of Tax per £.
	d.
Not exceeding £219	Nil
Exceeding £219 but not exceeding £235	3
„ £235 „ „ „ £499	6
„ £499	9

(*a*) The schedule is for the South Eastern (Basic Wage) Division of the State. Other districts have appropriate schedules prescribed.

Income other than from Employment.

Annual Ratable Income.	Rate of Tax per £.
	d.
Not exceeding £235	3
Exceeding £235 but not exceeding £499	6
„ £499	9

Persons with an income not exceeding £219 are exempt from tax.

(vi) *South Australia.*—Legislation covering special taxation for unemployment relief has not been enacted, the necessary funds being voted by Parliament from revenue.

(vii) *Western Australia.*—No legislation dealing with this subject was passed from 1932 to 1939. Special taxation has not been imposed, all money for the purposes being provided by the Government, Municipal Authorities and other bodies. There is a Hospital Tax of 1½d. in the £ applicable to all incomes over £1 per week (from 1st January, 1931). An amendment of the Financial Emergency Tax Assessment Act, 1932, provides for a graduated tax of 4d. to 9d. in the £ from 1st October, 1933, exemption being granted to all persons having an income of under 30s. per week, and to persons with dependants having an income of under £187 per annum.

Under an amendment operating from 1st January, 1937, the maximum of the graduated scale was raised from 9d. to 1s. in the £, and the exemption granted to persons with dependants was raised to £194 per annum. By further amendments the exemption was lifted to £199 per annum from 1st January, 1938, to £213 per annum from 1st January, 1939, and to £216 per annum from 1st January, 1940. The Financial Emergency Tax was abolished as from 1st July, 1940.

(viii) *Tasmania.*—Legislation passed in 1939 comprised the Public Works Execution Act, No. 66 of 1939; Federal Aid Roads and Works Execution Act Nos. 6 and 48 of 1939.

There is no special taxation for unemployment relief, relief work and sustenance being provided for from revenue.

2. **Unemployment Relief—Sustenance Rates.**—(i) *New South Wales.*—The Employment Council supervises measures for the placement of the residual unemployed in industry, and special arrangements are made for placing and training young men (aged 19 to 25) in skilled occupations. The wages of some of these trainees are supplemented by the State. Where works are declared by proclamation to be works for the unemployed the wages, hours and conditions of employment may be fixed by the Minister for Labour and Industry. The labour for relief works is engaged usually through the Labour Exchanges organized in the Department of Labour and Industry. A social aid service has been established to relieve distress arising from unemployment or other cause, and, as far as practicable, to rehabilitate the persons concerned. In addition to food relief, according to the scale shown in the next table, special foods may be provided for the sick and invalided, and a pint of milk per day for mothers (before and after childbirth) and for children under seven years of age. Clothing and boots are issued twice a year and free medical and dental attention and medicine are provided where necessary. Persons are not eligible for social aid if the family income exceeds a certain limit. In assessing income appropriate exemption is allowed in respect of earnings.

The method of distributing food relief by means of orders to suppliers introduced in 1932–33 is still in operation. The following statement shows the value of food relief orders (exclusive of special foods) per fortnight for the various family units :—

Family Unit.	Scale.	Food Relief (Per fortnight).		
		Limit of Income.	Value (Metropolitan).	
			Prior to 1st August, 1939.	From 1st August, 1939.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Single Adult	A	1 5 0	0 15 0	0 17 0
Married Couple	B	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 11 0
,, ,, 1 child ..	B1	2 10 0	1 18 0	2 1 0
,, ,, 2 children ..	B2	3 0 0	1 19 6(*a*)	2 3 0(*a*)
,, ,, 3 children ..	B3	3 5 0	2 5 6(*a*)	2 9 0(*a*)
,, ,, 4 children ..	B4	3 10 0	2 11 6(*a*)	2 15 0(*a*)
,, ,, 5 children ..	B5	3 15 0	2 17 6(*a*)	3 1 0(*a*)
,, ,, 6 children ..	B6	4 5 0	3 3 6(*a*)	3 7 0(*a*)
,, ,, 7 children ..	B7	4 15 0	3 9 6(*a*)	3 13 0(*a*)
Each additional Child ..	..	0 10 0	0 6 0(*a*)	0 6 0(*a*)

(*a*) In most cases, recipients of food relief who have two or more children under 14 years also receive Family Endowment at the rate of 10s. per fortnight for each child (except one) under the age of 14 years.

Juveniles between the ages 15 and 21 receive relief on the "single adult" scale, also children at age 14 for whom family allowance or widow's pension is not being paid.

The majority of relief workers are paid at award rates, and the usual scale of work is two weeks in eight for single men, or two weeks in four for married men, with longer periods for men with the larger families.

(ii) *Victoria.*—Sustenance payments are locally administered by Public Assistance Committees appointed under Act 4079 by the councils of the respective municipalities in which they are to function. The system of "working for sustenance" which was in operation in isolated instances only, was generally instituted on 3rd July, 1933.

The following are the weekly rates of sustenance in operation from 2nd October, 1939.

Family Unit.	Maximum Weekly Permissible Income.	Maximum Weekly Sustenance that may be Granted to— Unemployable applicant for whom Sustenance has been Specially Authorized by the Hon. the Minister.	Employable Applicant for whom Work in Return for Sustenance is not Provided.	Employable Male Working in Return for Sustenance, *vide* Section (8) of the Act.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Itinerant unemployed male	10 0	..	11 0	17 6
Approved prospector	12 0	..	11 0	17 6
Individual residing with strangers or relatives other than parents	12 0	6 6	11 0	17 6
Single unemployed employable male 21 years of age or over as member of family unit the head of which is in receipt of sustenance	In accordance with family unit of which he is a member			
	..	..	..	10 0
Two	20 0	9 9	18 6	30 6
Three .. .	25 0	And for each unemployed dependant irrespective of age residing with the applicant 5s. per week: Provided in any instance, the total value of sustenance does not exceed £3 17s. 6d. per week.		And for each unemployed dependant residing with the applicant—5s. per week for each male dependant under 21 years of age, and each female dependant irrespective of age: Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed £3 17s. 6d. per week.
For every additional member of the family unit there shall be added to the sum of 25s., a sum of 2s. 6d. for each such additional member.				

"Income" includes the full amount of money earned weekly by the applicant and all members of the family residing with him or with whom he is residing and any pension, allowance, bonus, commission, or other benefit and money received from all sources except from charitable organizations and societies.

In no instance must the total amount of the income received by the family and the value of the sustenance granted exceed £3 17s. 6d. in any one week. In assessing the amount of income to decide eligibility to receive sustenance, the following amounts are not taken into account :—

(1) A sum of 7s. 6d. per week of the total amount paid to the applicant and the members of the family residing with him by the British Government or Commonwealth of Australia by way of pension in respect of disabilities caused by war ; and

(2) The sum of 7s. 6d. of the total weekly amount paid to members of the family residing with the applicant or with whom he resides by the Commonwealth of Australia by way of an invalid and/or old-age pension ; and 20 per cent. of the total gross earnings of the applicant and all members of the family residing with him.

Men in receipt of sustenance may be called upon to work in return for sustenance by the municipality where sustenance is received, and the hours to be worked are computed by dividing the sustenance to which recipients are entitled under the Regulations by the hourly wage operating in the municipality in which the work is performed. This means that if a recipient of sustenance were entitled to 40s. 6d. per week and the wage was 12s. 6d. per day of eight hours or 1s. 6¾d. an hour, the number of hours to be worked would be computed by dividing 40s. 6d. by 1s. 6¾d. The work that may be undertaken as work in return for sustenance by municipalities is any which municipal councils are empowered or required to do or perform under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1928 or of any other Act, except private street construction and any other works in respect of which property-owners are required to contribute a portion or the whole of the cost. In connexion with the utilization of work in return for sustenance no male person ordinarily employed by the municipality must be dismissed or otherwise cease to be employed. Where work in return for sustenance is performed the payment of sustenance is made in cash. In other cases sustenance is granted to persons entitled thereto in such a manner as the Minister may, from time to time, direct.

Ninety-one per cent. (91%) of the persons in receipt of sustenance in the State are working in return therefor, and the weekly rates are as set out in column 5 of the schedule above. The balance of 9 per cent. comprises employable unemployed males in receipt of sustenance for whom the municipality is unable to provide work. In such cases the weekly rate of sustenance is in accordance with column 4 of the schedule.

In addition to relief in the form of sustenance, assistance is afforded by employment on unemployment relief works undertaken by governmental departments and various public authorities, including charitable institutions, municipal councils, sewerage authorities and waterworks trusts.

Under existing unemployment relief work conditions, men upon whose earnings other persons are ordinarily dependent for support, receive full-time employment each week for eleven weeks if they are unable to return to their homes each night, and for eight weeks, if they are able to return to their homes each night. Men upon whose earnings no other persons are ordinarily dependent for support receive 24 hours work each week, for twelve weeks if camped out, and for eight weeks if they are able to return to their homes each night.

The great bulk of these workers are employed on works of classes which are ordinarily governed by either the Australian Workers' Union Award No. 7 of 1937, or the Australian Railways Union Award, and receive the rates of pay prescribed by those Awards, including margins and allowances where applicable.

(iii) *Queensland.*—The Government's Full-Time Employment Scheme, which replaced the Intermittent Relief Scheme, in operation since 1931, has been developed along approved lines. The principle adopted of selecting the labour required from those persons in receipt of ration relief assistance according to priority was terminated as from 30th April, 1940, as its purposes had been served by the calling up of 13,690 men during its period of operation, thereby exhausting the list of eligibles. Consequently the engagement of all labour through State Labour Exchanges is being conducted in accordance with the general rules governing the engagement of labour at Labour Exchanges irrespective of priority of relief.

As from 23rd September, 1938, ration relief assistance was issued in the form of half cash and half rations instead of wholly in rations as previously. The classification of the family units and amounts allotted thereto are shown in the following table :—

Family Units and Weekly Ration Scale.

Family Unit.	Weekly Ration Scale, as from 31st May, 1937.
	s. d.
Single man	8 0
Man and wife	17 0
Man, wife and 1 child	20 9
,, ,, 2 children	24 6
,, ,, 3 ,,	28 3
,, ,, 4 ,,	32 0
,, ,, 5 ,, (a)	35 9
,, ,, 6 ,,	39 6
,, ,, 7 ,,	43 3
,, ,, 8 ,,	47 0
,, ,, 9 ,,	50 9
,, ,, 10 ,,	54 6
,, ,, 11 ,,	58 3
Widows and single girls without dependants	8 0
Widows and single girls with 1 dependant	15 6
For each additional dependant	3 9

(a) Or widower plus one additional dependant to those scheduled.

The rates above are increased in the northern and western parts of the State by the addition of parities.

Sons over 18 years of age are also entitled to relief provided the father's weekly earnings do not exceed certain amounts commencing at the basic wage and advancing by 4s. 6d. in respect of each child in the family under 18 years of age above three in number.

(iv) *South Australia.*—The issue of unemployment relief is controlled by the Unemployment Relief Council.

The cost of relief for the various family units is as follows :—

Family Unit.	Per Week.
	s. d.
Single person	6 10
Man and wife	15 2

For each child in the home, the following is the cost of relief, namely :—

	Per Week, s.	d.
13 years and over	6	10
Over 9 years and under 13	5	11
„ 6 „ „ „ 9	5	2
„ 3 „ „ „ 6	4	7
„ 1 „ „ „ 3	3	9

Separate relief orders are issued for groceries, bread, meat, vegetables fresh milk, and firewood. The grocery order is issued for a definite value, and the recipient selects goods from the list thereon, to the value stated. The fruit and vegetable order is also a "value" one, but the bread, meat, and milk orders are issued for definite quantities. In September, 1938, the ration scale was revised by a special Medical Committee.

Contract prices are arranged for all items on the ration list, and the unit costs indicated consequently vary from time to time, although the amount of relief available to the recipient remains constant. These rates are calculated on the contract prices operating in the metropolitan area. In country areas the cost varies considerably in the different towns, but the recipient receives the same amount of relief as in the metropolitan area. The quantitive orders would not affect the recipient, and a necessary percentage is added to those orders which are issued on the value basis. The value of the relief to the recipient is, of course, greater than that shown, as the contract system enhances the value of the order.

Married men are granted 1 cwt. of firewood weekly, and during the winter months this allowance is increased to 1½ cwt. weekly. Infants not naturally fed are supplied with fresh milk, sugar, fruit, and cereals, and if such food is considered unsuitable by a medical officer special foods are substituted as may be recommended. To assist those recipients of relief threatened with eviction to meet rental charges, one day's work per week is provided at the basic or award rate.

In a number of centres, both in the metropolitan area and in the country, recipients of relief render services in return for the relief issued to them, plus a subsidy from the local governing authority. The subsidy, which is a percentage of the cost of relief issued to each recipient, varies from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. in the different districts. The subsidy is always paid in cash, but in some instances the ration costs are not paid in cash, as the recipients desire to have the advantage of the contract system. Under this scheme the full amount earned is paid by the local authorities, who are reimbursed by the Unemployment Relief Council to the extent of the relief costs involved. Tools and materials are found by the local authorities, and the length of time to be worked is calculated at the basic or award rate applying to the particular class of work being undertaken.

There are no established intermittent relief works operating in this State, but various works are put in hand from time to time for the purpose of providing some work for the unemployed. Apart from such works and the Relief Subsidy Scheme there are no general intermittent relief works.

(v) *Western Australia.*—Relief is granted to unemployed married men at the rate of 7s. per member of the family per week, with a maximum amount of 49s. per week, of which 2s. in cash is paid in respect of each 7s. Children over fourteen years of age are not eligible. Single men are given part-time employment at Arbitration rates enabling them to earn at the rate of 34s. 5d. per week. If incapable of work, meal tickets are provided and the men are billeted in approved lodging houses.

From 1st August, 1933, employment on relief work has been on a rotary basis. The following is the scale of relief work now provided, and the resultant average earnings per week applicable to the family unit shown, together with the rates of sustenance per week to those not engaged on relief works.

Family Unit.(*a*)	Employment on Relief Works.(*b*)			Sustenance.
	Periods of Rotation. "A."	Periods of full-time work* included in "A." "B."	Average earnings per week† over period "A" of earnings during period "B."	Rate per week (applicable only to those not engaged on Relief Works).
	weeks.	weeks.	£ s. d.	s. d.
Married couple	8	6	3 4 3	14 0
,, ,, with 1 child	9	7	3 6 8	21 0
,, ,, ,, 2 children	8	7	3 15 0	28 0
,, ,, ,, 3 ,, ..	full-time	full-time	4 5 8	35 0
,, ,, ,, 4 ,, ..	,,	,,	4 5 8	42 0
,, ,, ,, 5 or more children	,,	,,	4 5 8	49 0

* At arbitration rates.

† Average earnings shown fluctuate proportionately in accordance with any alteration in the basic wage.

(*a*) Single men are provided each week with work equivalent to the value of 34s. 5d.

(*b*) After completion of "B" no further work or sustenance is available until the elapse of the balance of the corresponding rotation period shown in "A".

(vi) *Tasmania.*—The following scale of sustenance rates has been in operation since 26th August, 1940 :—

Family Unit.	Hobart and Suburbs.			Launceston and Suburbs.(*a*)		
	Sustenance.	Sustenance Work.		Sustenance.	Sustenance Work.	
	Dole per week.	Hours of Work.	Payment for Work.	Dole per week.	Hours of Work.	Payment for Work.
	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.		s. d.
Single person	10 9	$8\frac{1}{2}$	15 6	10 9	$8\frac{1}{2}$	15 3
Married couple	20 6	16	29 0	20 3	16	28 9
,, ,, with 1 child..	24 3	19	34 6	24 0	19	34 0
,, ,, ,, 2 children	28 0	22	40 0	27 9	22	39 6
,, ,, ,, 3 ,,	31 9	25	45 6	31 6	$24\frac{3}{4}$	44 6
,, ,, ,, 4 ,,	33 0	$26\frac{1}{4}$	47 9	32 9	$25\frac{3}{4}$	46 3
,, ,, ,, 5 ,,	36 6	$28\frac{3}{4}$	52 3	36 0	$28\frac{3}{4}$	51 6
,, ,, ,, 6 ,,	40 0	$31\frac{3}{4}$	57 9	39 6	$31\frac{1}{2}$	56 6
,, ,, ,, 7 ,,	43 6	$34\frac{1}{4}$	62 3	43 0	34	61 0
,, ,, ,, 8 ,,	47 0	$35\frac{1}{4}$	64 0	46 6	35	62 9

(*a*) Rates for country towns are regulated by a special schedule, and are lower than the rates shown in this table.

NOTE.—Whether work for sustenance is performed or not payment is made in cash.

Arrangements are made with Municipal Councils whereby men in receipt of sustenance perform a certain number of hours' work each week. The Council is reimbursed the wages paid by submitting a claim to the Social Services Department. The work provided by such Councils is in addition to that which would ordinarily be undertaken. The Councils are not to reduce the annual votes for works because of the extra items, and are not to displace any permanent employees. The men are to be employed at the basic rate of pay, for a sufficient number of hours each week to cover the

amount of sustenance authorized by the Department. The Councils mainly provide supervision, tools and equipment; also material required for the work.

(vii) *Australian Capital Territory.*—The original practice of granting rations was changed to a scheme of payment of the equivalent cash to that previously received in food value. The scale of sustenance per week, and the earnings under the scheme in operation from 30th June, 1939, are shown below:—

Family Unit.	Scale of Sustenance per week.	Maximum Earnings Allowed.*
	s. d.	*s. d.*
Single person	7 4 ..	34 0
Man and wife	12 4 ..	80 0
Man, wife and one child	17 11 ..	80 0
,, ,, 2 or 3 children ..	22 6 ..	104 0
,, ,, 4 or 5 children ..	26 6 ..	126 0
,, ,, 6 children	27 7 ..	149 0
,, ,, 7 children	30 5 ..	195 0
,, ,, 8 children	31 6 ..	218 0

* For period of four weeks.

The earnings are taken over a period of four weeks, and no relief is granted when they exceed the amounts mentioned during such period taken as a whole.

The scheme for the alleviation of distress from unemployment in the Territory was on 1st October, 1934, based on an average allotment of relief work of one week in two for married men, and one week in four for single men. This allotment fluctuated somewhat until in March, 1936, the men (married and single) were placed on full time. This favourable condition obtained until the end of June, but rationing of work became necessary again early in July, 1936, pending the organization and development of the 1936–37 works programme. In 1937–38 both married and single men were employed full-time from November, 1937, to June, 1938, and whilst this continued for married men, the single men reverted to one week's work in four from 1st September until 30th November, when they were restored to full-time for the month of December. From 1st January, 1939, to 31st March, 1939, single men were employed for one week's work in two, after which they resumed full-time employment, which continued practically to 30th June, 1940. The allotment is made irrespective of the sizes of families, the differences in domestic conditions as regards individuals being remedied by the scheme of graduated income standards and ration scale. In the case of families of four and five children, the maximum allotment is increased to three weeks in five. Additional funds occasionally make it possible to increase the ratios mentioned above.

(viii) *Northern Territory.*—The position regarding the provision of work for unemployment relief in the Northern Territory is as follows:—

Married men with not less than three years residential qualification—three days per week.

Married men who have resided in the Territory for twelve months, but less than three years—one day per week.

Single men with not less than twelve months' residential qualification—one day per week.

The basic wage is paid, which is at present £1 per day.

A sustenance allowance of 8s. 6d. per week is allowed in Darwin. This rate varies in country districts with the price of bread.

Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits. Concessions are granted in regard to such matters as hospital treatment, burials, fares out of the Territory, repatriation of aged Chinese, &c.

(ix) *Summary for all States and Territories.*—The following is a summary of the foregoing rates of unemployment relief in all States and Territories for the " family units " shown :—

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF.

Summary of Rates Operative in the various States and Territories.

I. Sustenance Rates (for work).*

(PER WEEK.)

State.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three† Children.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
New South Wales(*a*) ..	17 0	42 6	59 6	59 6	63 9
Victoria	17 6(*b*)	30 6	35 6(*c*)	40 6(*c*)	45 6(*c*)
Queensland(*d*)	..	..	..	..	..
South Australia(*e*) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Australia ..	33 2	64 3	66 8	75 0	85 8(*f*)
Tasmania	15 6	29 0	34 6	40 9	45 6
Northern Territory ..	18 1	54 3(*g*)	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory(*h*)	..	..	..	..	..

* Worked on various rotational bases.

† Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(*a*) Basic rates only. Award rates paid.

(*b*) Single employable male 21 or over, member of family in receipt of sustenance—10s.

(*c*) 5s. for each unemployed male dependant under 21 years, or each unemployed female dependant irrespective of age residing with applicant provided value of sustenance does not exceed 77s. 6d. per week.

(*d*) The Intermittent Relief Scheme was totally abolished at 30th June, 1939, and is being replaced by a new development full-time employment plan (see p. 116.).

(*e*) See note (*c*) Table II.

(*f*) Full-time work provided.

(*g*) With not less than 3 years residential qualification.

(*h*) Full-time work at award rates provided since 1st April, 1939.

II. Sustenance Rates (without work).

(PER WEEK.)

State.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three* Children.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
New South Wales ..	8 6	15 6	20 6	21 6	24 6
Victoria	11 0(*a*)	18 6	22 6(*b*)	26 6(*b*)	30 6(*b*)
Queensland	8 0	17 0	20 9	24 6	28 3
South Australia (*c*) ..	6 10	15 2	20 7(*d*)	26 0(*d*)	31 5(*d*)
Western Australia ..	(*e*)	14 0	21 0	28 0	35 0
Tasmania	10 9	20 6	24 3	28 0	31 9
Northern Territory ..	(*f*)	(*f*)	(*f*)	(*f*)	(*f*)
Australian Capital Territory	7 4	12 4	17 11	22 6	22 6

* Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(*a*) Unemployables residing with others than parents—6s. 6d.

(*b*) Rates represent 4s. for each unemployed male dependant under 21, and for each female dependant residing with applicant, provided the weekly value of sustenance does not exceed 50s. 6d. Unemployables for whom sustenance specially approved receive 9s. 9d. per week and for each unemployed dependant irrespective of age, 4s. 0d. per week.

(*c*) In a number of centres recipients work out the cost of rations (at Arbitration rates) to which is added a cash subsidy ranging according to the district from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. of the value of such cost. The ration value may be either in cash or kind. Recipients threatened with eviction are given one day's work per week to assist in meeting rental charges.

(*d*) Rates for children vary from 3s. 8½d. to 6s. 6d. according to age, but average has been taken at 5s. 5d. No fixed maximum for family.

(*e*) Provided with meal tickets and billeted in approved lodging house if incapable of work.

(*f*) Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children, and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits.

3. **Unemployment Relief Funds.**—(i) *Commonwealth.*—The Commonwealth Government made available to the States in 1929–30 from the Federal Aid Roads Account the sum of £1,000,000, appropriated by Act No. 55 of 1930, for the relief of unemployment; and further supplemented this amount by £750,000 in 1930–31 and £304,000 in 1931–32. The Loan (Unemployment Relief Works) Act, No. 9 of 1932, authorized the raising of money to the amount of £1,800,000 for assisting the States in the relief of unemployment. The money was free of interest, and the amounts allotted to the States were as follows:—New South Wales, £600,000; Victoria, £475,000; Queensland, £310,000; South Australia, £195,000; Western Australia, £145,000; Tasmania, £75,000. The payments were conditional on the expenditure being on approved reproductive works, and on the States providing equivalent amounts. The required sum was borrowed by the Commonwealth from the Commonwealth Bank, and the States borrowed £1,200,000 from the same source, making a total of £3,000,000 available for the purpose indicated. The amount of £600,000 granted to New South Wales was distributed by the Commonwealth and was not subject to the £1 for £1 condition. In December, 1932, the Government allocated a further £100,000 to the States for expenditure on Commonwealth works, in order to mitigate the condition of the workless at the Christmas season, and (from Loans) in 1933–34, £300,000. For the year 1934–35, the expenditure from revenue was £161,000. During 1934–35 the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act, No. 66 of 1934, was passed appropriating moneys for assisting the States in the re-employment of men, by means of public works and assistance to the metalliferous mining industry. This Act was amended by Act No. 2 of 1935 to include assistance in connexion with forestry works.

In addition to assistance to the States, the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 appropriated the following amounts for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth:—

	£
On Public Works	400,000
In assistance to the metalliferous mining industry	50,000
For Forestry works	9,000

The amounts appropriated for the States by the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 were—

State.	For Public Works.	For Metalliferous Mining.	For Forestry.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	350,000	42,500	50,000	442,500
Victoria	225,000	50,000	100,000	375,000
Queensland	125,000	70,000	30,000	225,000
South Australia	125,000	33,500	17,000	175,500
Western Australia	125,000	62,000	100,000	287,000
Tasmania	50,000	25,750	25,000	100,750
Total	1,000,000	283,750	322,000	1,605,750

The grants to the States for mining are subject to £1 for £1 contribution in respect of part thereof, and the grants for forestry are subject to each State (except South Australia and Tasmania) spending an amount equivalent to the sum received from the Commonwealth.

By Act No. 13 of 1936 the amounts provided for assistance to the States in respect of mining and forestry were supplemented by further grants from Revenue to be made available during 1936–37 and 1937–38 (upon similar conditions) as follows :—

—	For Metalliferous Mining.		For Forestry.	
	Financial Year 1936–37.	Financial Year 1937–38.	Financial Year 1936–37.	Financial Year 1937–38.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	19,600	13,600	25,000	12,500
Victoria	27,000	18,700	50,000	25,000
Queensland	35,600	24,900	15,000	7,500
South Australia	12,800	..	8,500	4,250
Western Australia	34,600	9,800	50,000	25,000
Tasmania	10,400	3,000	12,500	6,250
	140,000	70,000	161,000	80,500

Under Act No. 12 of 1936 a sum of £100,000 yearly was granted from Revenue for the ten years commencing 1st July, 1935, for payment to the States in the following proportions :—

	£
New South Wales	39,400
Victoria	27,400
Queensland	14,450
South Australia	8,700
Western Australia	6,650
Tasmania	3,400
	100,000

This measure provides that the grant shall be devoted to the payment of interest and sinking fund on approved loans raised by public authorities (preferably outside metropolitan areas) and the assistance is conditional upon grants of equal value for the same purpose by State Governments. The primary object of the grant is the relief of unemployment in country districts.

Under Act No. 71 of 1936 a sum of £150,000 was appropriated from Revenue for payment to the States by way of grant to be expended in the provision of assistance to persons out of employment. The object of this grant was to provide relief to persons out of work at the 1936 Christmas season.

The amount of £150,000 was distributed as follows :—

	£
New South Wales	59,200
Victoria	40,900
Queensland	21,700
South Australia	13,000
Western Australia	10,000
Tasmania	5,200
	150,000

Under Act No. 46 of 1937, a sum of £100,000 was appropriated for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States and Territories on public works and services. The purpose of this expenditure was to provide to as great an extent as possible additional employment for those who are unemployed at or about Christmas time.

In November, 1939, the Commonwealth made available £2,000,000 from the Loan Appropriation for defence works with the primary object of relieving unemployment throughout the States. The works selected were those affording the greatest scope for the employment of unskilled labour, and the allocation, having regard to the population and the unemployment existing in the various States, was as follows :—

	£
New South Wales	850,000
Victoria	470,000
Queensland	280,000
South Australia	175,000
Western Australia	125,000
Tasmania	60,000
For future allocation	40,000
	2,000,000

(ii) *New South Wales.*—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the relief of unemployment in New South Wales are not available apart from totals which include other forms of charitable relief and social services, but the following amounts are shown in the various Treasurer's Statements as having been spent on food relief in the years 1930–31 to 1938–39 :—

Year.	£	Year.	£
1930–31 ..	1,837,886	1935–36 ..	980,760
1931–32 ..	5,070,732	1936–37 ..	1,114,950
1932–33 ..	3,511,978	1937–38 ..	1,263,901
1933–34 ..	1,467,953	1938–39(*a*) ..	1,419,836
1934–35 ..	1,076,670		

(*a*) Other direct expenditure from revenue for relief of unemployment in 1938–39, included relief works £405,880; work subsidies £67,937; training of unemployed youths £197,545; clothing, medical service, etc., for unemployed £146,226; administration £241,617.

The Unemployment Relief Fund, instituted in New South Wales in July, 1930, was abolished as from 1st July, 1932, and the proceeds of the Wages and Special Income Taxes were paid into Consolidated Revenue Fund until 1st July, 1939. Then a new Unemployment Relief Fund was created to receive the proceeds of the Wages and Special Income Taxes collected between 1st July and 30th September, 1939, and arrears collected thereafter, together with two-thirds of the proceeds of the combined Unemployment Relief Tax and Social Services Tax.

The receipts and expenditure of the Unemployment Relief Fund in 1939–40 are shown below—

Receipts—

Wages Tax, £763,825; Special Income Tax, £80,966; Unemployment Relief Tax, £5,043,905; Total, £5,888,696.

Payments—	£
Works, Grants, &c., for relief of unemployment ..	1,674,394
Food Relief	1,791,222
Clothing, Medical and Dental Services for Unemployed	143,144
Christmas Grant to Food Relief Recipients and Relief Workers	42,718
Training of apprentices	191,139
Subsidies to Municipal and Shire Councils and other bodies to finance works	142,430
Remission of Capital Debt Charges *re* Unemployment Relief Works	509,908
Recoup to Consolidated Revenue Fund *re* loans for relief of unemployment—	
Interest	1,104,914
Sinking Fund	104,700
Direct and other Administrative Charges	234,405
Miscellaneous	13
Total	5,938,987

(iii) *Victoria.*—The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure from the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931–32 to 1939–40 :—

Year	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1931–32 ..	1,622,401 ..	1,625,458
1932–33 ..	1,731,721 ..	1,569,356
1933–34 ..	1,618,396 ..	1,766,873
1934–35 ..	1,695,707 ..	1,898,132
1935–36 ..	1,984,754 ..	1,754,165
1936–37 ..	1,966,435 ..	1,760,022
1937–38 ..	1,963,640 ..	1,962,097
1938–39 ..	1,913,898 ..	2,054,641
1939–40 ..	2,041,130 ..	1,885,223

(iv) *Queensland.*—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931–32 to 1937–38 and for the first six months of 1938–39 were as follows :—

Year.	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1931–32 ..	1,089,645 ..	1,200,674
1932–33 ..	1,806,010 ..	1,771,111
1933–34 ..	1,967,942 ..	1,903,888
1934–35 ..	2,425,917 ..	1,674,393
1935–36 ..	2,494,637 ..	2,653,182
1936–37 ..	2,637,172 ..	3,059,964
1937–38 ..	2,806,961 ..	2,664,314
1938–39 (first six months)	1,118,603 ..	1,109,347

The State Development Tax Act came into operation as from 1st January, 1939, and the Unemployment Relief Fund was closed on 31st December, 1938. Receipts from the State Development Tax which are paid into Consolidated Revenue are shown below together with expenditure :—

Year.	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1938–39 (last six months)	1,332,751	1,123,448
1939–40 ..	2,255,197	2,030,847

Quite apart from the foregoing, the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Fund, which is maintained by the joint contributions from employers, workers, and Government, provides moneys for the sustenance of those unemployed workers who were contributors to the Fund. In 1939–40 the expenditure from the Fund was £622,946, of which £591,328 was absorbed in sustenance payments.

(v) *South Australia.*—There is no special unemployment taxation in this State. The moneys required for the relief of unemployment are provided from General Revenue. In addition the Minister may issue licences to charitable organizations to raise moneys for the relief of unemployment in their districts. The total expenditure on Unemployment Relief (excluding Children's Welfare and Public Relief) during 1931–32 was £852,059 ; for 1932–33, £622,331 ; 1933–34, £534,418 ; 1934–35, £483,436 ; 1935–36, £413,035 ; 1936–37, £375,127 ; 1937–38, £319,067 ; 1938–39, £304,082 ; and 1939–40, £336,453.

(vi) *Western Australia.*—Special unemployment taxation is not levied in this State. Amounts required for sustenance and general relief of destitution are provided by the Government from Consolidated Revenue. The expenditure on unemployment relief from 1931–32 onwards was as follows :—

Year.	From Revenue.		From Loan.
	Sustenance Relief.	Sustenance Work.	Reproductive Relief Works.
	£	£	£
1931–32	643 996	..	1,202,547
1932–33	196,123	149,833	1,183,864
1933–34	182,953	49,239	1,884,897
1934–35	56,301	16,195	2,077,326
1935–36	35,275	14,595	2,011.888
1936–37	36,323	14,821	1,772,893
1937–38	37,945	14,021	1,168,389
1938–39	33,478	13,381	1,484,116
1939–40	39,684	13,896	1,282,259

(vii) *Tasmania.*—The amounts expended from Revenue during the last nine years on unemployment relief including relief work and sustenance for the unemployed are as follows :—

Year.	Expenditure. £
1931–32	70,000
1932–33	69,892
1933–34	168,350
1934–35	203,867
1935–36	193,645
1936–37	178,573
1937–38	174,672
1938–39	150,089
1939–40	137,402

The amount of £137,402 for 1939–40 includes £56,649 for relief work in lieu, and £11,199 for sustenance.

(viii) *Australian Capital Territory.*—There is no special taxation levied for the relief of unemployment in the Australian Capital Territory. The works upon which the unemployed are dependent have, in recent years, been largely financed from the annual appropriation for Defence, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to a lesser degree from the votes for Maintenance Services. In addition, various additional amounts have been made available from time to time from special appropriations to supplement existing votes with a view to increasing the ratio of employment. The amounts expended as purely unemployment relief measures in each year cannot therefore be stated, as they form a part of the general works programme within the Territory. Special provision is made, however, for the alleviation of distress, and the expenditure under this heading during the past six financial years was as follows :—1934–35, £2,405 ; 1935–36, £1,869 ; 1936–37, £848 ; 1937–38, £1,464 ; 1938–39, £1,123 ; and 1939–40, £1,653. This expenditure includes rations granted in certain cases, work in lieu of rations for itinerants, payments to the Canberra Relief Society for subsequent disbursement, the supply of firewood for unemployment camps and railway fares for destitute persons.

(ix) *Northern Territory.*—Special funds are provided for unemployment relief in the estimates of expenditure for the Territory. The expenditure in 1934–35 was £4,455 ; in 1935–36, £4,739 ; in 1936–37, £5,000 ; in 1937–38, £8,825 ; in 1938–39, £4,658 ; and in 1939–40, £2,780.

(x) *Loan Expenditure.*—In addition to expenditure from ordinary revenue, a large amount was also expended in the various States from Loan funds, but owing to the complication of moneys being advanced by the Commonwealth to the States, expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States, and the difficulty of stating the extent to which the ordinary Loan programmes of the States relieved unemployment, it is almost impossible to publish satisfactory figures for the ten years, 1930–31 to 1939–40. The most that can be claimed for such expenditure in connexion with the relief of unemployment is that had it been curtailed on the grounds of financial stringency, unemployment would undoubtedly have been greater. The Gross Loan Expenditure on Works, &c., by the States amounted to £20,556,200 in 1939–40.

4. **Numbers in Receipt of Sustenance.**—The number of persons in receipt of unemployment relief in its various forms cannot be accurately determined, but the following statement shows the numbers (exclusive of dependants) in receipt of or working for sustenance or working " part-time " on relief works in the various States at 30th June, 1940 :—

New South Wales	48,604
Victoria	12,559
Queensland	14,240
South Australia	5,163
Western Australia	6,039(*a*)
Tasmania	355
Northern Territory	..
Australian Capital Territory	24
Total	86,984

(*a*) Includes 481 men " standing down " and 1,975 working full-time, the latter comprising a certain number of foremen and other " key " men and all married men with three or more children.

Workers engaged "part-time" on "relief" works, mostly on a "rotational" system, are either directly employed by the various governments or through local government authorities. In addition to these, however, large numbers are employed on a "whole-time" basis on works which from their nature can hardly be regarded as purely for the relief of unemployment. As the cost is made a charge against the ordinary votes for works and services and loan appropriations, it has not been possible to secure satisfactory information in regard to the numbers engaged from a "relief" point of view.

5. **Youth Employment.**—A plan of co-operation of the Commonwealth and States to deal with the problem of unemployed youths was initiated by the Commonwealth at a conference of representatives of the Governments concerned held in Melbourne on 5th February, 1937. The immediate concern of the Conference was the large number of young men who through no fault of their own found themselves unemployed as the result mainly of failure to obtain a vocational training during the depression years. The Conference further considered that the many thousands of young men of the same ages who, for similar reasons, had been forced to accept "dead-end" jobs should also be regarded as coming within the ambit of the problem of youth employment arising more directly out of the depression.

It was recognized at this and subsequent Conferences that the Commonwealth itself had no machinery for dealing directly with the actual task of training and placing these young men in suitable employment openings, but that the Commonwealth could facilitate the work of the States in coping with the problem by financial assistance.

The Commonwealth agreed to make the sum of £200,000 available for distribution among the States for 1937-38, to be allocated proportionally to population, with a slight variation allowed for the degree of unemployment among youths in the various States, and to recommend, if necessary, the provision of a similar amount for the year 1938-39. It was left to each State to determine what amount from its own resources it would add to the Commonwealth grant to cover the working costs of its own scheme. It was further agreed that each State should develop a scheme suited to its own conditions and which would form an integral part of whatever policy it was following in providing technical and other training for youths and in dealing with unemployment as a whole. In other words, while the general plan to be followed would represent a joint and simultaneous attack by the Commonwealth and States upon the problem of the aftermath of depression for youths and young men directly affected, the actual operation of the plan was to be left to the States and to be as flexible as differing conditions in the States really demanded. The schemes submitted by the States were all approved by the Commonwealth. While differing in detail, the principal features of the schemes in operation cover—

(*a*) The supplementing of wages pending complete efficiency of the trainees.
(*b*) Training for technical trades and commercial pursuits.
(*c*) Training for agricultural, forestry and mining pursuits.
(*d*) Additions to buildings and purchase of plant and equipment where necessary.

Owing to the amount of work involved in making the requisite surveys and completing arrangements for training, the schemes did not come into full operation as early as had been anticipated, and the first £200,000 voted

by the Commonwealth Parliament under the States Grants (Youth Employment) Act, No. 37 of 1937, was not fully expended in 1937-38. The amount of £200,000 was distributed as follows:—

	£
New South Wales	79,000
Victoria	55,000
Queensland	25,000
South Australia	19,000
Western Australia	14,000
Tasmania	8,000
	200,000

The second Commonwealth contribution of £200,000 provided for by the States Grants (Youth Employment) Act, No. 10 of 1939 was allocated amongst the States in the same proportions as the first grant and was a necessary part of the total fund estimated to be required to bring the schemes to completion.

On 19th and 20th July, 1939, a Conference of Ministers and officials from the Commonwealth and States was held in Melbourne to consider the wider problem of unemployment and "dead-end" employment among youths and young men. The Conference was convened by the Commonwealth Government at the instance of the New South Wales Government, following deliberations in the Commonwealth Parliament and the several State Parliaments upon the existing difficulties and future employment prospects for this section of the community. Among other matters, the Conference recommended the establishment in each State of a research organization, with at least one research officer appointed by the State on a full time basis, to attack the problem of employment and unemployment; that the Commonwealth appoint qualified research investigators primarily responsible to the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics to act in close co-operation with employment research organizations in the States; and that the Conference should constitute itself a continuing body to be convened by the Commonwealth. Subsequently these research bodies and research officers were set up in the States and the Research Section of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics constituted the research body for the Commonwealth. On 4th to 6th December, 1939, a Conference of representatives of the research bodies was held in Canberra and a programme of uniform research activities adopted, attention being directed to both the immediate and after-effects of the war upon vocational training and employment opportunities for youths and young men. This joint research by all States and the Commonwealth is now proceeding.

§ 5. State Labour Exchanges.

1. **General.**—There is considerable diversity in the scope of the several State Labour Exchanges, as well as in the methods adopted for registration of applicants for employment. Details were given in Labour Reports Nos. 19 and 20 concerning the organization of these Exchanges, in the several States, systems of registration of applicants for employment, selection of applicants for vacant positions, granting sustenance and food relief, and other matters.

2. **Present Position and Scope.**—The present position of these Exchanges in the various States is set out in the following paragraphs :—

NEW SOUTH WALES.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The Labour Exchanges are administered by the Department of Labour and Industry. In the Metropolitan area, Newcastle and Maitland coal-fields, Wollongong District, Broken Hill and Lithgow administration is by officers of the Department. Throughout the rest of the State 400 country centres are administered by the local police. In industrial areas there are registration depots in every Municipality and Shire. In addition there is a centralized section where are recorded all male juveniles who register in the metropolitan area or are referred from country centres.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—Any involuntarily unemployed person, male or female, aged fourteen and over may register.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charge is made for the services of the Exchange.

(*c*) *Residence.*—Applicants must be residents of the registration district.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—Persons of most occupations use the Exchanges, but the semi-skilled and unskilled predominate.

(*e*) *Income.*—Except where food relief or relief work is applied for, no information is required about the applicant's, or his family's income.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—Persons are required to report each month to keep their registration current. Failure to report without sufficient explanation results in removal from the current register, and this system, combined with inspections by a special investigation staff produces a satisfactory register. The registered unemployed are asked to notify their exchange if they secure employment otherwise than through the Exchange, but not many do so.

(*g*) *Employment.*—Persons are called up for employment in order of registration according to occupation, for submission to the employer. The Industrial Arbitration Act authorizes the Exchanges to make loans toward the expenses of persons going to employment. Repayment is by deduction from earnings. Loans are made for fares, tools of trade, equipment, stock, &c., and for lodgment of Fidelity Bond.

(*h*) *Analysis of Registration.*—Each month the registrations are classified according to ages 14–21 in yearly age groups, 21–25 and over 25. Analyses are made periodically of unemployment according to occupation and other particulars.

(iii) *Employment.*—Governmental and Semi-Governmental authorities use the Exchanges most, but private employers also use them. The Returned Soldiers and Sailors Employment Act (1919) enforced registration on employers in search of returned soldier and sailor workmen. Except as provided in this Act Governmental and Semi-Governmental authorities, local authorities and Government contractors are not bound to take their workmen from the Exchanges. However, local authorities controlling works subsidized by the Government are required to take their workmen from the Exchanges. Again, the Government Departments and Semi-Governmental authorities are required to use the Exchanges when possible.

(iv) *Relief.*—(*a*) *Registration.*—Registration for employment is a condition of food relief or relief work, except for persons deemed unable to work.

(*b*) *Food Relief and Sustenance.*—Food relief is issued to males and females 21 years or over, and to married juveniles. The amount of the relief depends on income and number of dependants. Food relief is issued direct to juveniles, 14–20 years, when the Department is satisfied they have no effective parent

or guardian. The food relief is given in the form of orders upon nominated tradesmen. Special foods are given to children under twelve months, and to members of the family in ill health.

(*c*) *Relief Work.*—Relief work is given to persons 21 years or over and to married juveniles. Food relief is not issued to a relief worker. The relief work is under the Industrial Arbitration Amendment Act, 1937. Work is allotted according to the number of persons dependent on the applicant, who must furnish regular declarations as to income and dependants. Wages are paid at award rates and are higher than the value of food relief that the relief worker would receive if not on relief work. Cost of transport of relief workers is borne by the employing authorities.

(v) *Private Employment Agencies.*—The Industrial Arbitration Act provides for the licencing and supervision of private employment agencies. An annual registration fee is payable. These agencies deal mostly in domestic work.

VICTORIA.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The Government Labour Exchange is administered by the Department of Labour. It is a State-wide organization with agencies in every municipality. In metropolitan and the more important provincial municipalities, it has its own officers. Elsewhere the local police station is the agency. Juveniles are as a rule referred to the Boys' and the Girls' Employment Movement, originally a non-official movement, but now attached to the Department of Labour.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—Any male over fourteen may register. Juvenile male applicants are, as a rule, referred to the Boys' Employment Movement, which offers a better service. Females may not register, but there is a Girls' Employment Movement for juvenile females.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charge is made for the services of the Exchanges.

(*c*) *Residence.*—One month's residence in the registration district is necessary for unemployment relief work, but owing to the scarcity of suitable labour this is not enforced at present.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—Persons of most occupations use the Exchanges, but the unskilled and the semi-skilled predominate.

(*e*) *Income.*—All applicants for relief work must declare their assets and income.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—Applicants for registration are issued with a card which must be stamped monthly. Persons registered are asked to notify the Exchange if they obtain employment other than through the Exchange. As this is not always done, there are, as a rule, some persons registered as unemployed who are actually employed, but whose names will not be removed from the register until the month expires and they fail to present their cards.

(*g*) *Employment.*—Persons are called up for employment in order of registration according to occupation, for submission to the employing body. Preference is given to those with dependants. Private employers are supplied with the best men available.

(*h*) *Analysis of Registrations.*—Each month the registrations are classified according to occupation (stating whether married or single and whether first, second or third class) and also under age groups—21 years, 21–29 years, 30–39 years, 40–49 years, 50–59 years, 60 years and over (again showing whether married or single).

(iii) *Employment.*—Departments and municipal bodies spending relief funds allocated by the Employment Council must obtain their labour requirements from the Government Labour Exchange, and must observe certain conditions laid down in the Unemployment Relief (Administration) Act of 1932 as to pay and conditions. Of private employers, country employers use the Exchange most, but since the War city employers have made more use of the Exchange than in the past.

(iv) *Relief.*—(*a*) *Registration.*—Applicants must be registered at the local Government Labour Exchange Branch, and a three months residential qualification in the State is necessary before sustenance is payable.

(*b*) *Food Relief and Sustenance.*—Sustenance is granted to heads of families over eighteen years of age, and to dependent members of such families, under certain conditions. Provision of sustenance is made from the Unemployment Relief Tax. Every male person who receives it can be required to work in return for it. As with relief works, rates of pay and conditions of work are as prescribed in the relevant awards, and the amount of work to be done is determined by dividing the amount of sustenance to which a man is entitled by the hourly rate of wage for the type of work. When a person works in return for sustenance (the normal case) he receives a higher rate than if he were not working.

(*c*) *Relief Work.*—This is given to males only, and there are no age restrictions. Relief workers are engaged in order of seniority of registration, subject to suitability. Preference is given to men with dependants.

(v) *Private Employment Exchanges.*—These are used mainly by country and domestic workers.

QUEENSLAND.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The State Labour Exchanges are controlled by the Sub-Department of Labour. They are provided at all centres where sufficient demand for them exists. Those in the larger cities and towns are controlled by staff officers, and, in other centres, the local Clerk of Petty Sessions, or the Police Officer acts. The Juvenile Employment Bureau is a separate body administered by the Board of Juvenile Employment, responsible to the Secretary for Public Instruction. It is located in Brisbane, and has five country branches. Relief is administered by the Department of Labour and Industry.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—As payment of Unemployment Insurance benefits is dependent upon registration, and all Government employment is selected through the Exchanges, all classes of workers register, and all unemployed persons fit and willing to accept employment are also permitted to register. Most of the unemployed juveniles, male and female, especially those under eighteen and therefore outside the unemployment insurance field, use the Juvenile Employment Bureau.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charge is made for the services of the Exchanges.

(*c*) *Residence.*—There are no residence qualifications for registration, but it is necessary to reside in Queensland for six months before Government employment is available.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—All classes of workers register.

(*e*) *Income.*—No details about income are required when registering.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—Persons are not required to notify if they obtain work other than through the Exchanges, but, except in special circumstances, registrations are regarded as having lapsed unless renewed weekly. Short terms of employment are often obtained during the currency of registration, and, if these do not exceed two months, priority rights are not lost.

(g) *Employment.*—No restrictions are placed on private employers when selecting labour, but, in other cases, preference must be given in accordance with priority of registration, except in cases of unsuitability or special suitability for the work. Rail fares are advanced to persons proceeding to employment.

(h) *Analysis of Registrations.*—Each month the registrations are classified according to Exchange, occupation, sex, and marital condition. Analyses according to age are made at irregular intervals for special purposes. The proportion of the total unemployed who register is known to be much higher in Queensland than in other States, since registration is a condition of benefit under the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Scheme which covers all employment to which State awards apply, certain employment not covered by State awards, and certain employment covered by Commonwealth awards.

(iii) *Employment.*—State Departments are required to select labour from the unemployed registered at Labour Exchanges, and the same conditions apply to local authorities and contractors carrying out work on behalf of the Government, or who have been granted loans and subsidies for the carrying out of works. Little patronage is given by private employers, other than farmers. The Womens' Labour Exchange in the metropolis has been very successful in placing women.

(iv) *Relief.*—(a) *Registration.*—Except for able-bodied males, this is not required, for any destitute person in need of relief assistance may lodge an application at any police station, and authorized police officers may immediately issue ration relief if satisfied as to the merits of the case.

(b) *Food Relief.*—Applications are forwarded from the police stations to the Officer in Charge of Relief for examination and assessment according to prescribed rules, which take into account earnings during the preceding twelve months, family income, liquid assets, property, pensions, &c. The relief assistance approved is paid half in cash and half in rations, except in the case of destitute travellers and eligible farmers, who are granted relief in the form of rations only. Rations are issued in the form of an order on traders, and the classes of goods which may be obtained on the order are restricted to general grocery lines, meat, milk and bread. The weekly scale of rations in south-eastern Queensland is 8s. for a single man, 17s. for a man and wife, with an allowance of 3s. 9d. for each dependent child. Higher scales operate in northern and western districts, whilst the scale for married farmers is 25 per cent. lower. Ration recipients are classified as "fit", "fit for light work only", and "unfit". No work is done in return for relief assistance.

(c) *Relief Work.*—This ceased at the end of June, 1939.

(v) *Private Labour Exchanges.*—These are few, their activities being chiefly with the placement of farm station workers and domestic servants.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The Government Labour Exchange is administered by the Commissioner of Public Works and the Employment Relief Council by the Minister of Industry and Employment. The Head Office of the Labour Exchange is in Adelaide with a branch at Port Adelaide. Elsewhere the police stations act as local agents of the Exchange. Youth is not specially provided for by the Government, but the Education Department has an Employment Officer who devotes his full time to vocational guidance and placement work.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—All males aged fourteen and over may register. They must be unemployed but may earn up to 50 per cent. of the basic wage by doing odd jobs. In certain cases particularly for employment as young labourers in the South Australian Railways boys under fourteen years of age may register to gain priority in registration at the age of fourteen. Women may not register.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charges are made for the services of the Exchange.

(*c*) *Residence.*—No residential qualification for registration is required.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—Male persons of most occupations register, but the unskilled unemployed predominate.

(*e*) *Income.*—No questions about income are on the registration card.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—In order to keep registration alive, monthly reporting is necessary.

(*g*) *Employment.*—The man registered the longest consecutive period of time, provided he is suitable, is engaged. The preference is first to married returned soldiers, then single returned soldiers with people completely dependent on them ; after that married civilians and single returned soldiers and civilians. Skill is more important than length of registration where the job requires it. Private employers are not hampered at all in their choice of workmen. Fares are paid for Government jobs, and advanced when a guarantee has been given, for private jobs.

(*h*) *Analysis of Registrations.*—Each month the registrations are classified according to whether town or country registration, whether civilian or returned soldier, and according to occupation.

(iii) *Employment.*—All State Departments must engage their non-clerical labour through the Exchanges. Neither local authorities nor contractors with the Government are required to obtain their labour in this way. Private employers are encouraged by the free nature of the services of the Exchanges to use them, but, in fact, very few do so.

(iv) *Relief.*—(*a*) *Registration.*—In order to obtain relief it is necessary for males to be registered with the Labour Exchange. However, relief is issuable to both men and women, although women may not register at the Exchange.

(*b*) *Food Relief.*—This is provided by the Unemployment Relief Council in the form of orders for foodstuffs and fuel, to persons in necessitous circumstances due to unemployment. Relief or sustenance is given to any person, male or female, eligible. A person may be regarded as " eligible " only if unemployed, if able to pass a rigid means test, and if relations are incapable of giving assistance. There is no fixed scale of permissible income, each case being considered on its merits, taking into account the income, rent paid, and size of the family. Work is only done in return for sustenance in those districts where the local governing authority is prepared to provide a subsidy of not less than 25 per cent. of the ration values in cash, in return for the labour. Where such work is done, the local 25 per cent. subsidy is an additional cash payment to the worker. The recipient of the cash subsidy may receive the whole of his sustenance in cash, but it is usual for the recipient to prefer ration tickets, as these provide a high return of goods to him, as goods are supplied cheaper under the Government contract system.

(*c*) *Relief Work.*—Generally relief work is given only to males over 21 years of age. Owing to the absence of any special taxation such work is limited in its extent, but occasional Federal and State grants are spent by

the Unemployment Relief Council in such a way as to absorb the unemployed into relief works. Rent work is given to people threatened with eviction, in order to enable them to pay their rent. Cost of transport is borne by the employing authorities.

(v) *Private Labor Exchanges.*—Private Employment Exchanges mostly engage agricultural, and a limited number of cow and sheep hands; domestics both for city and country; timber cutters; waitresses for city and country.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The State Labour Bureau is a branch of the Department of Employment. Its function is to register men and women seeking employment with a view to their effective placement. Branches of the Bureau are established in the chief centres of the State, and elsewhere police officers act as agents. The Bureau does not engage men for relief work, placement being effected only with private employers. Juvenile males are provided for by the Youth Employment Bureau, which has an office in Perth. The function of the Department to register adult males for relief and sustenance must be added to that of administering the Bureau.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—Any person aged fourteen or over may register for employment. Women register at the Women's Branch of the main Bureau.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charge is made for services.

(*c*) *Residence.*—No residential qualification is necessary.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—The preponderance of the unskilled manual workers is probably not so great as in the other States. Clerical workers have a greater chance of being employed through the Bureau than in the other States.

(*e*) *Income.*—No questions are asked about income.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—Persons are not required to re-register at specified intervals at the Bureau neither are they expected to notify if they obtain work independently.

(*g*) *Employment.*—As the Bureau provides only for private employment, the requirements of the employer are given first consideration. Other things being equal, preference is given to those longest registered, and to married men if the work is suitable. Fares on a repayable basis are provided for people proceeding to employment.

(*h*) *Analysis of Registrations.*—An alphabetical index of all applicants for relief work is kept, but, in the absence of notification of independently obtained jobs, the Bureau can have no satisfactory record of the unemployed.

(iii) *Employment.*—The State Labour Bureau does not provide for public authorities. However, the State Government Departments, local authorities, and Government contractors must obtain their labour from the Department of Employment, which has a record of people in need of relief employment, if funds set aside for the relief of unemployment are being, otherwise there is no restriction as to the source of labour.

(iv) *Relief.*—(*a*) *Registration.*—A central register of all applications for assistance, whether approved or not, is kept in Perth. Registration with the Labour Bureau is a condition of sustenance or relief work only in the metropolitan area.

(*b*) *Food Relief.*—Assistance is granted to approved married men, at the rate of 7s. per member of the family per week, with a maximum amount of 49s., of which 2s. in every unit of 7s. is paid in cash. Every application for relief is investigated by a departmental inspector before a decision is given, and, if approved, subsequent inspections are made at regular intervals. Destitution is the main consideration in granting relief. Married men, in receipt of sustenance only, are provided with firewood in the winter, and expectant mothers are granted an allowance for the purchase of fresh milk If unable to work single men are given meal tickets and, if necessary, accommodation. Generally work is not performed in return for sustenance.

(*c*) *Relief Works.*—These are provided for married and single adult males, whose destitution is proved or who have been admitted to sustenance. Single men are given sufficient work to enable them to earn 34s. 5d. per week. The provision for married men is based on family responsibility. Where there are three or more children, full time work is given until the completion of the job. All relief work is carried out in accordance with industrial awards or agreements made by, or registered at the Court of Arbitration, and the minimum wage is the basic wage declared by the Court. The cost of transport is borne by the employing authorities as provided by the relevant awards and agreements.

(v) *Private Employment Exchanges.*—Employment brokers carry on business by licence issued under the Employment Brokers Act, 1909, which permits a fee to be charged to both employer and employee. Where necessary the State Labour Bureau advances fares for which the brokers take no responsibility. Such advances are repayable.

TASMANIA.—(i) *Administration and Organization.*—The Department of Labour and Industry administers the Unemployment Registration Offices or Labour Exchanges. The offices in Hobart, Launceston and Glenorchy, where the greatest number of unemployed register, are situated in separate buildings with a staff, but the 46 country offices are in the various Municipal Council Chambers, and the administrative work is performed by the Council Clerk. All these offices are supervised from Hobart.

(ii) *Registration.*—(*a*) *Age and Sex.*—All males and females between the ages of 14 and 65 are eligible for registration.

(*b*) *Charges.*—No charge for service rendered is made.

(*c*) *Residence.*—It is necessary for the applicant to live in the area covered by the local office or agency.

(*d*) *Occupation.*—Of those who register, the majority are of the unskilled class.

(*e*) *Income.*—Earnings (of applicant and family), property, mortgages, interest, rent, pensions, and savings are all enumerated on the application form.

(*f*) *Reporting.*—It is necessary for the registration to be renewed weekly in the city, and at less frequent intervals in the country. Failure to do so results in de-registration. People are asked to notify if they obtain work independently, but it is estimated that only about 3 per cent. of them do so.

(*g*) *Employment.*—Selection for work is carried out on the rotary system on a basis of 60 per cent. married men on relief, 30 per cent. men not on relief, and 10 per cent. single men. For Hydro-Electric works preference is given

to members of the Australian Workers Union. With private employment, no special rule is adopted other than to supply the most suitable labour in accordance with the employer's requirements and conditions. Rail, steamer and motor fares are advanced to all people going to Government employment. In the case of private employment, arrangements are made with the employer to advance the fare or transport the employee at his own expense.

(h) *Analysis of Registrations.*—Labour Exchange figures are compiled, but they do not give a very accurate picture. Clerks obtain employment through the Public Service Commissioner, and this alone makes quite a large gap.

(iii) *Employment.*—Government Departments obtain the whole of their unskilled labour requirements from the Exchanges; local authorities obtain most of it; and Government contractors obtain about 5 per cent. of their requirements. The staff of the Exchanges encourages their use by private employers by making direct contacts, and by answering advertisements for labour. However, only about 5 per cent. of the placements made by the Exchanges are in private employment.

(iv) *Relief.*—All relief and sustenance is under the control of the Director of Social Services and this Department works in collaboration with the Registration Office.

(a) *Registration.*—After a person has been registered for employment for seven days he is eligible to apply for relief, provided he has been resident in the State for six months, and in the municipality for three months.

(b) *Sustenance and Relief Work.*—Men on relief have to work at the basic rate in return for what they receive—the amount of relief is in proportion to the dependants. A man is entitled to earn, in addition to his relief, his rent, together with a small additional amount in the city. In the city the work is controlled by the Public Works Department, and in the country by the municipal councils. As in selection for ordinary employment, relief works are made up as nearly as possible of 60 per cent. married men already in receipt of sustenance, 30 per cent. married men not on sustenance and 10 per cent. single men. Strong, healthy types are usually selected.

(v) *Private Employment Agencies.*—Unofficial agencies are few, and of little importance. Registry Offices are in existence but deal mostly with domestic service and a little farm work.

3. **Registered Unemployed at State Labour Exchanges.**—The work of the State Labour Exchanges greatly increased in 1930 owing to the abnormal amount of unemployment. The peak number of applications for work was, however, received in the March quarter of 1931. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, who in the past had not availed themselves of the services of the Exchanges, registered for relief work as there was little prospect of employment in their usual occupations. Special legislation in 1930 for the relief of unemployment provided in most cases that registration at the Exchanges was essential before relief work or sustenance could be obtained, and resulted in increased registrations for employment.

The following table shows the number of persons registered for employment at the various State Labour Exchanges in the various States and Australia as a whole in the year 1939-40. The figures in this table, however, should not be used to compare total unemployment as between one State and another. There is reason to believe that the proportion of registered to total unemployed differs considerably from State to State. The proportion of the total unemployed who register is known to be much higher in Queensland than in other States, since registration is a condition precedent to the claiming of benefit under the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Scheme which covers all employment to which State awards apply, certain employment not covered by State awards, and certain employment covered by Commonwealth awards.

Persons Registered for Employment at State Labour Exchanges.

Period.	New South Wales. (a)	Victoria. (b)	Queensland. (c)	South Australia. (d)	Western Australia.		Tasmania. (c)	Total Australia.
					Labour Exchange (e)	Department of Employment. (f)		
1939-40 ..	48,915	14,773	27,582	6,919	1,096	4,398	1,231	104,914
1939—								
July ..	52,107	21,139	23,037	8,656	1,379	4,504	2,315	113,137
August ..	52,851	21,938	22,406	8,859	1,552	4,618	2,369	114,593
September ..	52,307	20,703	23,224	8,824	1,331	4,267	2,048	112,704
October ..	51,326	17,768	24,109	7,857	1,278	4,377	1,603	108,318
November ..	47,555	14,946	25,664	6,915	1,030	4,202	1,279	101,591
December ..	45,461	13,742	31,023	5,619	748	4,642	1,019	102,254
1940—								
January ..	47,412	12,739	35,801	6,574	1,238	4,390	683	108,837
February ..	46,415	11,577	34,864	5,946	1,001	4,414	689	104,906
March ..	45,681	11,109	32,735	5,494	991	4,482	687	101,179
April ..	50,813	11,467	29,451	6,060	1,000	4,317	706	103,814
May ..	50,851	10,476	25,927	6,246	892	4,309	715	99,416
June ..	44,201	9,671	22,742	5,978	718	4,250	656	88,216

(a) Adult males. Includes those engaged on part-time Relief Work. (b) Males. Includes those working for Sustenance. (c) Persons. (d) Males. Includes those engaged on part-time Relief Work. (e) Adult males, females, and a certain proportion of the State's registered unemployed youth. Re-registrations and new registrations during the month. These figures relate to persons registered for placement in private employment only. (f) Males. These figures relate to rationed and part-time relief workers engaged through the Department of Employment and unemployed men in receipt of sustenance.

§ 6. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Source of Information.**—The following tables have been compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments, special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford more detailed information. The appreciative thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, who very kindly supplied the summarized returns shown hereunder.

2. **Number of Accidents Reported.**—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State in the years 1935 to 1939 :—

Industrial Accidents, 1935 to 1939.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A. (*b*)	Tas.	Total.
No. of Fatal Accidents	1935 ..	42	21	12	5	37	3	120
	1936 ..	46	22	17	7	49	7	148
	1937 ..	64	38	24	4	51	8	189
	1938 ..	54	26	17	12	34	3	146
	1939 ..	53	26	20	14	43	5	161
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1935 ..	(*a*)6,134	719	480	222	1,442	177	9,174
	1936 ..	,, 7,802	739	546	180	2,035	107	11,409
	1937 ..	,, 8,150	1,027	665	156	1,752	136	11,886
	1938 ..	,, 9,704	976	746	190	1,917	128	13,661
	1939 ..	,, 9,794	976	684	178	1,662	106	13,400

(*a*) *See* remarks below. (*b*) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Compared with 1938 the numbers of deaths from industrial accidents in 1939 increased in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, decreased in New South Wales and remained stationary in Victoria. The number of non-fatal accidents increased in New South Wales, decreased in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, and remained stationary in Victoria. Non-fatal accidents in Western Australia showed a considerable decrease on the number recorded in the previous year.

The large number of accidents recorded in New South Wales during recent years was due to an amendment of the Act which provides that all accidents which prevent workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. Figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. Further, the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

3. **Accidents in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups in Australia in 1939.

Industrial Accidents: Number in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1939.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitating for over 14 days. (*b*)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	5	664
II. Engineering, etc.	(*a*) 15	(*a*) 4,343
III. Food, Drink, etc.	10	1,295
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	1	627
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1	480
VI. Other Manufacturing	17	3,100
VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	7	23
VIII. Mining	93	2,552
IX. Lifts	3	6
X. Miscellaneous	9	310
Total	161	13,400

(*a*) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories in New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. In previous years these accidents were included in Group VIII. Mining.
(*b*) *See* remarks above.

The largest number of fatal accidents occurred in the mining industry, representing 68 per cent. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in engineering, etc. (32 per cent.). It should be pointed out, however, that the figures for 1938 and 1939 are not directly comparable with those for previous years as accidents in ore dressing, smelting works, etc., in New South Wales previously included in Group VIII. (Mining) are now included in the engineering group.

Seven fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding and three deaths resulted from lift accidents. Forty-nine fatal, and 10,509 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, and 4,343 of the total occurred in the engineering and metal-working group.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments, and, except for New South Wales, in regard to accidents in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works reported to Inspectors of Factories in each State in 1939.

Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes, 1939.(a)
A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	1	1	2	..	6	..	10
" " Falls of Ground	7	3	2	..	6	2	20
" " Falling down shafts, etc.	..	..	..	..	11	..	11
Other Accidents	..	1	..	..	12	..	13
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	..	..	3	1	1	..	5
Other Accidents	3	..	..	3	2	..	8
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. ..	..	4	..	2	..	..	6
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	9	..	2	..	1	..	12
Other Accidents	5	..	1	..	..	..	6
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	26	9	11	6	30	1	93

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the State Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident.

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	24	2	3	..	11	..	40
" " Falls of Ground	8	2	5	1	43	5	64
" " Falling down shafts, etc.	14	3	..	..	42	2	61
Other Accidents	324	3	88	..	734	18	1,167
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	11	..	..	4	32	3	50
Other Accidents	118	..	40	43	152	42	395
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.(b)	4	..	62	72	57	12	207
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. ..	..	7	..	14	66	..	87
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	19	..	2	..	..	..	21
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	18	2	29	..	42	4	95
Other Accidents	30	..	106	..	170	1	307
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	..	..	3	..	2	..	5
Other Accidents	13	..	19	..	19	..	51
Total	584	19	358	134	1,370	87	2,552

(a) Complete reports not available. (b) Inclusive of accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories in States other than New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works.

Seventy-two fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia during the year, as compared with 21 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1939 numbered 68, as against 19 in coalmines and 6 in quarries and brick and clay pits. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 1,757 and above ground 708. Eighty-seven non-fatal accidents occurred in quarries and brick and clay pits.

CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1935. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in regard to the supply of information.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1935 to 1939. Particulars for the years 1912 to 1934 will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. **Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1935 to 1939.** —The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1935 to 1939 :—

Trade Unions : Branches and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'tory.	A.C.T.	Total.	Aust.
					NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.					
1935..	182	147	109	112	130	77	4	15	776	*a*354
1936..	184	147	111	114	132	76	5	15	784	*a*356
1937..	184	147	110	113	132	76	6	15	783	*a*358
1938..	194	147	111	114	136	78	6	15	801	*a*366
1939..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	819	*a*380
					NUMBER OF BRANCHES.					
1935..	584	399	321	183	190	77	..	1	1,755	*b*2,177
1936..	559	396	314	177	211	71	..	1	1,729	*b*2,157
1937..	571	396	309	171	198	70	..	1	1,716	*b*2,141
1938..	573	400	314	179	202	58	..	1	1,727	*b*2,162
1939..	598	398	312	178	204	69	..	1	1,760	*b*2,199
					NUMBER OF MEMBERS.					
1935..	309,689	199,132	148,127	59,102	58,315	14,556	851	1,058	790,830	790,830
1936..	315,517	201,616	158,953	59,900	60,762	15,839	992	1,230	814,809	814,809
1937..	333,879	209,794	162,212	63,770	65,053	19,208	912	1,455	856,283	856,283
1938..	346,837	215,021	169,569	62,404	67,932	21,051	806	1,538	885,158	885,158
1939..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470	915,470
					PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(*d*)					
1935..	*c*0.9	1.7	14.5	6.9	7.6	7.8	3.2	1.5	3.7	3.7
1936..	1.9	1.2	7.3	1.4	4.2	8.8	16.6	16.3	3.0	3.0
1937..	5.5	4.0	2.0	6.1	6.6	17.5	*c*8.8	15.4	4.8	4.8
1938..	3.7	2.4	4.3	*c*2.1	4.2	8.8	*c*11.6	5.7	3.3	3.3
1939..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	*c*0.1	4.8	*c*5.6	9.6	3.4	3.4

(*a*) Allowing for interstate duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and interstate groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see following remarks). (*b*) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of interstate unions, but also head State branches of interstate unions. (*c*) Decrease. (*d*) On preceding year.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations, namely :— (i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of interstate and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a Branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making due allowance for this duplication.

3. Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1935 to 1939.—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1935 to 1939. In previous Reports it was pointed out that the number of unions classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), increased considerably during the period 1918 to 1920, and a correspondingly large increase occurred in the membership of the group. During recent years many associations of employees of public and semi-public bodies have been organized, and such unions are now included in the tabulations. Public Service, municipal, banking and insurance associations, which were not previously recognized, are now registered under the provision of the Commonwealth and State Industrial Arbitration Acts, and are therefore classified as industrial bodies. The inclusion of these organizations is responsible, to a great extent, for the increase in Group XIV.

Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.

Industrial Groups.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	NUMBER OF UNIONS.				
Manufacturing—	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	61 (21)	63 (21)	63 (22)	63 (22)	64 (22)
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	63 (32)	69 (33)	70 (35)	70 (34)	72 (35)
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	24 (11)	24 (11)	24 (11)	26 (12)	26 (12)
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	15 (9)	14 (8)	14 (7)	14 (8)	14 (8)
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	73 (34)	73 (35)	73 (36)	73 (36)	71 (37)
VII. Building	49 (26)	49 (27)	49 (27)	49 (28)	48 (28)
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	16 (13)	16 (13)	15 (12)	15 (12)	16 (13)
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	52 (30)	50 (29)	50 (28)	50 (27)	51 (29)
X. Other Land Transport	10 (4)	11 (4)	12 (5)	13 (6)	13 (6)
XI. Shipping, etc.	55 (22)	55 (21)	55 (21)	55 (20)	60 (21)
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	10 (7)	11 (7)	9 (8)	9 (6)	9 (5)
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	19 (14)	20 (15)	20 (15)	20 (16)	19 (18)
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	32 (19)	32 (19)	32 (16)	32 (16)	33 (20)
(ii) Public Service	148 (47)	148 (48)	148 (49)	148 (50)	147 (50)
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	8 (8)	8 (8)	8 (8)	8 (8)	15 (8)
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring	16 (11)	16 (11)	16 (11)	16 (12)	20 (11)
(v) Other Miscellaneous	108 (42)	108 (42)	108 (45)	123 (49)	124 (53)
Total	776(354)a	784(356)a	783(358)a	801(366)a	819(380)a
	NUMBER OF MEMBERS.				
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	27,079	25,365	27,465	27,831	27,990
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	76,070	79,047	83,993	94,228	99,731
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	68,292	72,120	76,702	75,753	80,328
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	59,484	62,269	66,323	66,427	68,847
V. Books, Printing, etc.	18,808	19,425	20,461	21,661	22,303
VI. Other Manufacturing	44,388	46,832	49,323	48,410	52,074
VII. Building	51,034	56,727	59,484	47,953	45,651
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	36,636	40,184	44,912	43,429	48,812
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	97,443	94,944	97,435	104,523	105,938
X. Other Land Transport	10,539	10,287	15,829	18,969	19,488
XI. Shipping, etc.	26,388	27,346	27,611	28,780	28,760
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	28,782	31,869	34,624	38,424	40,276
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	19,043	16,091	15,933	12,835	13,177
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	34,415	35,315	36,044	37,639	39,013
(ii) Public Service	82,766	83,484	84,716	86,797	89,848
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	32,619	32,178	33,055	34,140	36,290
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	38,926	39,603	40,948	45,126	46,552
(v) Other Miscellaneous	38,118	41,723	41,425	52,233	50,392
Total	790,830	814,809	856,283	885,158	915,470

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication.

4. Trade Unions—Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners.—(i) *States*, 1939. The estimated numbers of male and female wage and salary earners (including unemployed) have been obtained by increasing the numbers of such persons enumerated at the 1933 Census in ratio to the

annual increases in separate age groups for males and females. Further, allowance has been made for (*a*) increase in the proportion of females who are wage and salary earners, and (*b*) youths and girls who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the 1933 Census. The figures have been revised since the previous issue of the Labour Report and should not be compared with estimates previously published.

The following table shows separately for males and females and for each State (*a*) the number of members of trade unions ; (*b*) the estimated number of wage and salary earners of each sex 20 years of age and over in all professions, trades, and occupations ; and (*c*) the percentage of the former (*a*) on the latter (*b*) at the end of the year 1939. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons 20 years of age and over in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations) as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover, the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has been added to show the estimated numbers of " junior " workers under 20 years of age :—

Trade Unions : Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1939.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (*a*)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Nthn. T'tory.	Australia.
MALES.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (*b*) ..	613,200	400,700	217,600	124,800	103,800	44,600	2,800	1,507,500
No. of Members of Unions ..	310,213	176,577	153,553	60,332	58,217	18,731	713	778,336
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	50.6	44.1	70.6	48.3	56.1	42.0	25.5	51.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) (*b*)	110,800	71,500	41,400	24,400	17,700	9,600	200	275,600
FEMALES.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (*b*) ..	159,500	135,200	52,800	34,300	24,100	11,600	200	417,600
No. of Members of Unions ..	49,863	40,226	27,100	6,950	9,616	3,331	48	137,134
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	31.3	29.8	51.3	20.3	39.9	28.7	24.0	32.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) (*b*)	76,300	51,200	26,100	16,600	11,300	5,600	100	187,200
PERSONS.								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (*b*) ..	772,700	535,800	270,400	159,100	127,900	56,200	3,000	1,925,100
No. of Members of Unions ..	360,076	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	915,470
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	46.6	40.5	66.8	42.3	53.0	39.3	25.4	47.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) (*b*)	187,100	122,700	67,500	41,000	29,000	15,200	300	462,800

(*a*) Inclusive of Australian Capital Territory. (*b*) Basis of estimates revised since previous issue.

(ii) *Australia.*—Similar particulars for Australia for the five years 1935 to 1939 are given in the next table. The figures for years prior to 1938 previously published in the Labour Report have been revised.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia, 1935 to 1939.

Particulars.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
MALES.(a)					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,432,900	1,451,600	1,470,200	1,488,200	1,507,500
Number of Members of Unions	662,147	685,795	720,587	748,749	778,336
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	46.2	47.2	49.0	50.3	51.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	263,400	265,400	268,600	273,200	275,600
FEMALES.(a)					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	389,700	397,600	404,700	419,900	417,600
Number of Members of Unions	128,383	129,014	135,696	136,409	137,134
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	32.9	32.4	33.5	33.2	32.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	173,600	176,400	179,900	183,900	187,200
PERSONS.(a)					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,822,600	1,849,200	1,874,900	1,899,100	1,925,100
Number of Members of Unions	790,830	814,809	856,283	885,158	915,470
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	43.4	44.1	45.7	46.6	47.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	437,000	441,800	448,500	457,100	462,800

(a) *See* note (b) on previous page.

5. **Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1935 to 1939.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1935 to 1939 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only :—

Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.											
1935 ..	23	12	43	39	50	25	25	44	40	53	354
1936 ..	26	11	41	40	51	27	29	42	38	51	356
1937 ..	27	10	45	40	48	29	29	39	38	53	358
1938 ..	27	10	45	43	45	31	29	44	39	53	366
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
MEMBERSHIP.											
1935 ..	443,398	95,417	136,405	53,710	35,581	9,695	5,961	6,116	3,031	1,516	790,830
1936 ..	490,617	71,449	131,248	56,805	36,645	10,957	6,942	5,890	2,737	1,519	814,809
1937 ..	526,817	70,456	140,285	56,603	34,209	11,345	6,911	5,354	2,684	1,619	856,283
1938 ..	543,442	68,881	149,337	60,978	32,258	12,953	6,722	6,375	2,626	1,586	885,158
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	59,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.											
1935 ..	56.1	12.1	17.1	6.8	4.5	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.2	100.0
1936 ..	60.2	8.8	16.1	7.0	4.5	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0
1937 ..	61.6	8.2	16.4	6.6	4.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.2	100.0
1938 ..	61.4	7.7	16.9	6.9	3.6	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given for the years 1935 to 1939. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that though membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 111 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 298.

6. **Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions: Number and Membership.

PARTICULARS.		UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.(a)	
Number of Unions	1935 ..	20	10	19	23	40	112
	1936 ..	19	8	21	19	46	113
	1937 ..	18	12	18	19	46	113
	1938 ..	16	12	19	23	43	113
	1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42	116
Number of Members	1935 ..	31,891	23,923	119,976	200,196	273,934	649,920
	1936 ..	28,233	13,624	123,008	171,517	324,919	661,301
	1937 ..	29,863	17,802	131,468	172,799	366,172	718,104
	1938 ..	27,713	20,279	140,214	190,700	352,405	731,311
	1939 ..	30,888	33,319	120,664	209,369	361,884	756,124

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 116 in 1939, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 83 per cent. during the same period.

7. **Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The table hereunder gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1935 to 1939.

Central Labour Organizations: Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Total.
No. of Councils	1935 ..	3	5	6	2	8	3	..	1	28
	1936 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	1937 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	1938 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1935 ..	92	167	84	54	212	59	..	11	679
	1936 ..	91	167	84	54	213	59	..	11	679
	1937 ..	91	167	85	53	213	59	..	10	678
	1938 ..	100	176	78	47	210	59	..	9	679
	1939 ..	103	179	70	50	210	59	..	9	689

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of the Commonwealth, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:—(*a*) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the Craft to an Industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (*b*) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (*c*) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (*d*) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons, from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

8. **Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of 1939 the number of employees' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 32, with a membership of approximately 34,000. At the same date the number of unions registered was 144, with a membership of approximately 770,000 representing 84 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

§ 2. Employers' Associations.

1. **General.**—Associations for trade purposes merely are not included in the present chapter, which deals with those associations only whose members are united for their own protection, and for representation in cases

* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

before Arbitration Courts, Wages Boards and other wage-fixing tribunals. Associations of employers and employees are recognized under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act as well as under several State Acts, and such organizations may be registered.

2. **Employers' Associations in each State.**—The following table gives particulars of the number and membership of employers' associations in each State at the end of the years 1935 to 1939 :—

Employers' Associations.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.							
1935	a131	156	72	60	56	25	500
1936	a134	150	73	61	58	30	506
1937	b134	149	78	61	59	30	511
1938	b134	147	76	62	58	29	506
1939	b136	152	75	61	60	30	514
NUMBER OF BRANCHES.							
1935	786	559	135	13	302	8	1,803
1936	806	608	393	32	296	6	2,141
1937	681	548	394	33	184	10	1,850
1938	658	561	391	32	85	6	1,733
1939	663	562	395	31	87	5	1,743
MEMBERSHIP.							
1935	a59,444	37,765	18,556	7,536	10,791	2,087	136,179
1936	a60,135	50,262	35,764	8,813	11,193	2,257	168,424
1937	b63,747	50,566	33,150	9,081	10,978	2,152	169,674
1938	b66,573	53,745	32,407	9,671	11,312	1,982	175,690
1939	b66,861	54,451	31,915	10,257	11,600	2,006	177,090

(*a*) Includes 1 Association in A.C.T. (*b*) Includes 2 Associations in A.C.T.

3. **Employers' Associations in Industrial Groups.**—The figures in the next table refer to Australia at the end of the years 1938 and 1939.

Employers' Associations : Industrial Groups, Australia.

Class.	Number of Associations.		Number of Branches.		Membership.	
	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.
Manufacturing—						
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	20	20	16	16	1,239	1,517
II. Engineering, etc.	18	20	1	2	2,632	2,540
III. Food, Drink, etc.	106	110	140	146	24,169	24,749
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	15	15	9	9	1,541	1,730
V. Books, Printing, etc	39	40	..	..	2,625	2,596
VI. Other Manufacturing	39	42	2	3	3,624	3,988
VII. Building	26	26	10	11	2,176	2,169
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	11	9	..	..	288	244
X. Other Land Transport	18	18	10	10	3,271	3,190
XI. Shipping, etc	18	20	3	3	265	277
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	51	48	1,512	1,513	110,435	108,582
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	20	19	..	..	2,192	2,267
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	125	127	30	30	21,233	23,232
Total	506	514	1,733	1,743	175,690	177,090

The female membership of these associations was 6,200 for 1938 and 6,400 for 1939.

The organization of employers is relatively strongest in the pastoral and agricultural industries and in the manufacture and distribution of articles of food and drink. In the former case there has been considerable growth in organization among small farmers, and in the latter the large membership is mainly due to the proprietors of shops purveying foodstuffs being members of grocers', butchers', and other similar associations.

4. **Employers' Associations in Membership Groups.**—The following table gives information in membership groups for Australia for the years 1935 to 1939:—

Employers' Associations : Membership Groups, Australia.

Membership Groups.	1,000 and over.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
			NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.					
1935	19	31	20	21	51	77	281	500
1936	20	31	21	20	51	79	284	506
1937	24	33	23	26	44	80	281	511
1938	27	35	21	22	52	72	277	506
1939	30	38	22	24	51	68	281	514
			MEMBERSHIP.					
1935	85,116	20,392	7,356	5,213	7,506	5,387	5,209	136,179
1936	109,476	21,895	8,800	6,654	8,242	6,836	6,521	168,424
1937	114,567	23,389	8,364	6,391	6,366	5,680	4,917	169,674
1938	119,070	25,274	8,208	5,444	7,483	5,222	4,989	175,690
1939	119,050	26,398	8,158	6,041	7,116	4,925	5,402	177,090
			PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.					
1935	63	15	5	4	5	4	4	100
1936	65	13	5	4	5	4	4	100
1937	67	14	5	4	4	3	3	100
1938	68	14	5	3	4	3	3	100
1939	67	15	5	3	4	3	3	100

5. **Federations of Employers' Associations.**—In addition to the associations in various industries, there are central associations in each State, to which many of these separate organizations are affiliated. Examples of this kind of association are provided in the Chamber of Manufactures, Chamber of Commerce, and Employers' Federation in each State. Further, these State Associations are, in some cases, organized on a Federal basis, e.g., there is an Associated Chamber of Manufactures, an Associated Chamber of Commerce, and a Central Employers' Association, to which State branches are affiliated.

The affiliation of these associations is, however, somewhat loose as compared with that of the Federated Trade Unions. Whereas in the latter case the central body has complete control of its State branches, in the case of the Employers' Associations the State body generally has complete independence, the central body acting in a more or less advisory capacity only.

The following table gives particulars for the years 1935 to 1939, so far as can be ascertained, of interstate or federated associations having branches in two or more States :—

Interstate or Federated Employers' Associations.

Year.	Associations Operating in—					Total.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.	
	Number of Associations.					
1935	4	2	10	6	20	42
1936	5	2	8	6	17	38
1937	3	3	10	10	17	43
1938	6	..	7	14	17	44
1939	4	..	11	12	19	46
	Membership.					
1935	10,529	57	3,311	63,155	37,723	114,775
1936	11,315	904	1,013	22,324	104,896	140,452
1937	9,351	2,019	1,118	92,049	38,908	143,445
1938	9,512	..	3,800	93,454	41,198	147,964
1939	8,229	..	5,219	92,287	43,723	149,458

Of the total membership of 177,090 of all employers' associations, 84 per cent. are organized on an interstate basis. The Pastoral, Agricultural, &c., section (Class XII.) is the most important in the federated sphere, their numbers covering no less than 61 per cent. of the total membership of federated organizations. The Food, Drink, &c., section (Class III.) and the Miscellaneous section (Class XIV.) are also well represented in the federations.

§ 3. International Comparisons.

1. **The International Labour Conferences.**—In Chapter XVII. of Labour Report No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences, and the institution of the International Labour Office. The Report referred to also contains information regarding the activities of the Labour Office, together with a brief reference to the five Annual Labour Conferences which had then been held. Particulars of the proceedings at subsequent Conferences were given in later reports.

The twenty-fifth session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 8th to 28th June, 1939, and the Agenda and decisions are briefly as follows :—

Agenda.

(i) Technical and vocational education and apprenticeship.
(ii) Regulation of contracts of employment of indigenous workers.
(iii) Recruiting, placing and conditions of labour (equality of treatment) of migrant workers.
(iv) Regulation of hours of work and rest periods of professional drivers (and their assistants) of vehicles engaged in road transport.
(v) Generalization of the reduction of hours of work in industry, commerce and offices.
(vi) Reduction of hours of work in Coal Mines.

In regard to the first five items, these were submitted at the twenty-fourth session in 1938, but were held over for final discussion at the 1939 Conference. Conference drew up lists of points on which Governments were to be consulted in the meantime.

The following is a brief summary of the decisions reached by the Conference :—

(i) Recommendations (2) were adopted in regard to vocational training and apprenticeship.

(ii) Draft Conventions (2) were adopted concerning (*a*) regulation of contracts of employment of indigenous workers, and (*b*) the abolition of penal sanctions for breaches of contracts as in (*a*). Recommendations (2) were also adopted in connexion with the above concerning (*c*) maximum length of contracts, and (*d*) labour inspectorates.

(iii) Draft Convention adopted, also two Recommendations setting out for the guidance of States the principles upon which the Convention should be applied.

(iv) Draft Convention adopted, also four Recommendations. The first concerned individual control books ; the second night work ; the third methods of regulating hours of work ; and the fourth rest periods of professional drivers of private vehicles.

(v) Further action was postponed in view of the " prevailing political insecurity and the extensive programmes of armament and national defence ".

(vi) A Resolution was discussed asking the governing body to re-submit the matter " as soon as such action is warranted by an improvement in the international situation ".

Other Resolutions not relating to items on the Agenda were adopted, viz. :—(*a*) Employment of women ; (*b*) judicial bodies for the enforcement of labour legislation and the rapid functioning of such bodies ; and (*c*) enquiry into the methods for the encouragement and the development of the International Labour Organization in various Countries.

The Australian delegation comprised the following :—Government Delegate—J. S. Duncan, Esq., C.B.E. ; Employers' Delegate—A. G. Kemp, Esq. ; Workers' Delegate—T. E. Lawton, Esq.

2. Unemployment.—In the following table, the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of 1939. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the League of Nations, Geneva :—

Unemployment in various Countries during 1939.

Country.	Percentage Unemployed in Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia.. ..	..	9.6	..	..	9.5	..	..	10.2	..	..	9.3	..	9.7
Belgium	22.0	20.1	18.2	17.6	17.9	16.8	16.5	17.0	21.0	18.7	19.8	20.6	18.9
Canada	18.1	18.3	18.6	17.8	14.5	13.4	12.7	11.9	10.7	10.0	10.5	13.2	14.1
Denmark ..	29.9	27.1	22.8	16.9	11.5	11.1	11.0	9.5	12.5	16.0	21.3	32.1	18.5
Great Britain ..	11.5	11.2	10.5	9.7	9.0	8.1	7.5	7.1	7.4	8.4	8.3	8.1	8.9
Holland	28.9	26.0	22.5	20.5	18.5	17.5	17.2	16.8	16.7	16.8	17.0	21.6	20.0
Sweden	15.3	13.4	12.6	10.3	7.4	6.6	5.8	5.9	7.2	8.8	11.2	16.0	10.0
Switzerland ..	4.3	4.3	3.7	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.9
United States ..	13.3	12.7	11.8	11.1	10.8	10.3	10.5	10.1	9.6	9.3	9.4	9.8	10.7

3. **Retail Prices of Food—Various Countries.**—The following table shows the average retail prices of the chief items of food in the principal cities of the countries specified. The prices have been extracted from official publications and reports :—

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1939.

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports.)

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	AUSTRALIA.								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread ..	2 lb.	6.00	6.05	5.98	5.98	5.43	5.40	5.40	5.38	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	4.95	4.90	4.85	4.85	4.40	4.05	4.35	4.20	4.20	4.18	4.10	4.10	4.18	4.08	4.08	4.08
Tea	lb.	26.60	26.50	26.60	29.65	26.85	26.85	26.85	30.25	30.75	30.50	30.25	33.25	30.75	30.75	30.50	34.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	9.20	9.55	9.65	9.80	8.25	8.30	8.45	8.60	12.75	13.50	13.50	13.50	12.38	12.75	13.50	13.13
Sugar.. ..	lb.	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.75	4.25	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice	,,	3.35	3.40	3.35	3.40	3.38	3.48	3.45	3.48	3.00	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.00	3.25	3.25	3.50
Oatmeal ..	,,	3.22	3.39	3.25	3.35	3.53	3.60	3.63	3.45	3.55	3.20	3.45	3.55	2.60	2.85	3.30	3.30
Raisins ..	,,	10.32	10.08	10.28	10.53	10.35	10.55	10.35	10.60	7.50	7.50	7.75	8.75	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.50
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	21.43	13.81	20.31	19.19	23.08	11.02	18.17	25.87	10.63	11.38	16.63	22.00	6.88	7.50	12.50	14.38
Onions ..	lb.	4.07	4.21	4.29	3.46	3.83	3.97	4.11	3.34	3.25	3.50	3.75	4.50	3.50	3.00	3.00	5.00
Milk	quart	7.10	7.10	7.00	7.10	7.45	7.25	7.30	6.85	6.50	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Butter ..	lb.	19.05	19.00	19.05	19.05	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.45	18.25	18.25	18.25	18.25	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Cheese ..	,,	14.40	14.60	14.65	14.65	13.56	13.50	13.39	13.31	11.00	11.25	11.25	11.25	10.75	10.50	11.25	11.25
Eggs	dozen	25.35	23.85	14.95	14.85	21.70	27.00	15.40	14.60	28.00	30.75	26.75	20.50	23.50	29.75	25.75	19.50
Bacon ..	lb.	16.60	16.10	15.50	17.00	20.10	20.00	19.45	20.15	18.25	18.00	18.25	18.25	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Beef, sirloin ..	,,	10.65	10.35	9.95	10.40	10.80	11.20	10.40	10.40	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.25	9.25	9.25	10.50
,, rib ..	,,	7.85	7.60	7.45	7.85	8.65	9.10	8.30	8.40	7.50	7.50	7.25	7.25	8.00	8.00	8.00	9.00
,, steak, rump	,,	15.00	14.90	14.80	14.80	15.60	15.90	15.50	15.40	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	12.50	12.00	12.50	14.50
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.40	7.10	7.10	7.25	7.40	7.95	7.35	7.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.00	8.00	8.25	10.00
,, chops ..	,,	9.10	8.80	8.60	9.05	8.45	8.55	7.95	8.05	9.00	9.25	9.25	9.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	10.00

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1939—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	United Kingdom.(c)				Union of South Africa.							
						Capetown.				Johannesburg.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2 lb.	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	7.53	7.44	7.29	7.00	6.93	6.92	7.01	6.99
Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	4.00	3.92	3.86	3.92	6.51	6.53	6.49	6.49	6.00	5.99	6.26	6.26
Tea	lb.	28.25	28.25	28.00	29.00	25.36	25.36	25.21	28.61	25.74	25.88	26.08	28.80
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	7.83	7.83	7.88	7.92	8.53	8.51	8.55	8.61
Sugar	lb.	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.50	3.32	3.32	3.32	3.35	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Rice	,,	..	..	..	..	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	3.29	3.25	3.25	3.41
Oatmeal	,,	..	..	..	..	3.57	3.53	3.53	3.53	3.50	3.41	3.42	3.45
Raisins	,,	..	..	..	..	8.57	8.64	8.79	8.79	8.39	8.42	8.64	8.67
Potatoes	7 lb.	5.75	6.50	7.25	6.75	9.77	9.77	10.00	10.05	7.41	7.25	7.41	8.43
Onions	lb.	..	..	..	..	2.07	1.88	1.88	2.35	2.01	2.08	1.95	2.14
Milk	quart	6.75	6.50	6.75	7.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.14	6.46	6.46	6.13
Butter	lb.	17.00	16.50	16.25	18.75	19.36	19.43	19.36	19.00	19.06	19.39	19.39	18.83
Cheese	,,	10.75	10.50	10.00	11.00	16.37	16.50	17.26	15.00	16.23	15.96	16.57	15.00
Eggs	dozen	24.00	15.00	21.00	30.00	21.21	30.00	17.50	15.71	20.75	28.53	16.69	15.26
Bacon	lb.	..	..	..	..	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.71	19.33	19.41	19.86	19.86
Beef, sirloin	,,	..	..	..	..	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	10.18	10.04	10.04	10.24
,, rib	,,	(a) 14.25 (b) 9.50	14.25 9.50	14.25 9.50	15.00 10.25	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25	6.78	6.76	6.74	6.82
,, steak, rump		..	..	..	..	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.53	12.49	12.45	12.56
Mutton, leg	,,	(a) 15.25 (b) 10.25	15.50 10.25	15.50 10.25	16.00 11.00	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	11.14	10.98	10.98	11.24

(*a*) British. (*b*) Chilled or frozen. (*c*) Average for all towns.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1939—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	CANADA.								UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.(a)			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.							
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.
Bread	2 lb.	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	16.0	16.0	15.8	15.8
Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	7.0	6.6	6.4	7.6	7.2	6.4	6.8	7.6	7.2	7.2	7.2	8.4
Tea	lb.	61.1	61.3	60.9	62.1	65.2	64.2	61.8	64.5	70.4	70.0	69.6	70.0
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sugar	lb.	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.8	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.8
Rice	,,	8.5	7.7	7.8	8.3	7.5	7.4	7.1	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	8.1
Oatmeal	,,	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Raisins	,,	16.7	16.5	16.4	16.9	16.4	16.9	16.7	17.1	10.0	10.0	10.0	..
Potatoes	7 lb.	13.3	20.0	14.1	13.7	13.2	17.7	11.9	13.0	16.8	18.9	15.9	16.3
Onions	lb.	4.7	5.1	5.2	4.4	4.5	5.4	5.3	4.1	4.0	4.4	3.6	3.1
Milk	quart	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.5	11.5	10.5	11.5	12.5	11.6	12.0	12.8
Butter	lb.	25.8	24.4	24.7	30.6	26.4	24.9	25.1	31.1	33.0	29.9	30.8	35.6
Cheese	,,	21.0	20.0	20.3	21.7	21.2	20.7	20.5	20.9	25.0	24.1	24.2	25.6
Eggs	dozen	31.8	27.7	31.7	46.4	33.0	29.0	34.6	47.2	29.9	28.1	32.6	39.6
Bacon	lb.	29.8 33.2	28.4 31.8	29.5 32.2	30.6 33.1	27.4 30.8	26.8 30.1	26.8 30.0	28.2 31.2	34.5	32.5	30.6	30.4
Beef, sirloin	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, rib	,,	22.6	23.5	23.0	23.8	21.4	23.0	22.9	22.8	30.1	30.5	29.2	29.1
,, steak, rump	,,	28.0	29.2	29.4	28.7	27.6	28.4	28.8	29.7	39.0	39.7	39.6	35.1
Mutton, leg	,,	25.7	24.4	25.1	26.0	23.1	26.1	25.4	24.4	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for all towns.

APPENDIX.

Section I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	6.05	6.00	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.03	6.03	5.98	6.03	5.98	5.98	5.98	6.02
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.95	4.95	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.88
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7 50
Tea	lb.	26.60	26.60	26.60	26.60	26.50	26.50	26.60	26.60	26.60	29.65	29.65	29.65	27.35
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4 00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	,,	3.00	3.35	3.35	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.35	3.35	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.35
Sago	,,	3.00	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.10	3.28	3.38	3.10
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	9.05	9.20	9.55	9.65	9.55	9.55	9.60	9.65	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.90	9.59
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.70	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.70	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.69
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.14	3.22	3.28	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.33	3.25	3.33	3.28	3.35	3.35	3.31
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	10.37	10.32	10.32	10.32	10.08	10.05	10.28	10.28	10.28	10.28	10.53	10.63	10.31
Currants	,,	8.61	8.61	8.61	8.61	8.72	8.61	8.61	8.72	8.80	8.90	8.95	8.95	8.73
Apricots, dried ..	,,	14.06	14.17	14.33	14.40	14.19	14.61	14.38	14.38	15.44	15.44	15.39	15.44	14.69
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.65	9.90	9.80	9.85	9.95	10.05	10.00	9.95	10.00	10.05	10.05	10.05	9.91
Pears, canned ..	,,	9.70	10.80	10.80	10.95	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.05	11.10	11.20	11.20	10.90
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	12.78	12.78	12.89	13.06	13.06	13.06	13.00	13.35	13.90	14.70	14.80	14.80	13.37
Potatoes	7 lb.	16.50	21.43	17.57	16.07	13.81	15.19	17.56	20.31	20.81	22.69	19.19	12.44	17.80
Onions, brown ..	lb.	4.00	4.07	3.64	3.86	4.21	4.14	4.36	4.29	4 21	4.21	3.46	2.93	3.95
Soap	,,	6.35	6.35	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37
Kerosene	quart	4.83	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.91
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.03
Cheese, mild ..	,,	14.05	14.40	14.45	14.45	14.60	14.70	14.65	14.65	14.55	14.85	14.65	14.65	14.55
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	19.50	25.35	18.65	22.60	23.85	23.90	17.95	14.95	14.85	14.85	14.85	16.85	19.01
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	16.95	16.60	16.40	16.15	16.10	15.70	15.70	15.50	15.70	16.20	17.00	17.10	16.26
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	9.00	9.00	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.07
,, fresh ..	1 quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.00	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.09
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	10.55	10.65	10.55	10.70	10.35	10.35	9.95	9.95	10.00	10.20	10.40	10.70	10.36
,, rib	,,	7.90	7.85	7.90	8.00	7.60	7.80	7.70	7.45	7.55	7.70	7.85	8.00	7.78
,, steak, rump ..	,,	15.00	15.00	14.90	15.00	14.90	15.00	15.00	14.80	14.70	14.80	14.80	15.00	14.91
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.90	6.65	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.95	6.82
,, sausages ..	,,	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.90	5.85	5.85	5.80	5.80	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.95	5.87
Beef (corned) silver side	,,	8.35	8.35	8.25	8.40	8.10	8.05	8.20	7.95	8.05	8.05	8.30	8.60	8.22
,, ,, brisket	,,	6.20	6.30	6.20	6.15	5.90	5.80	5.95	5.75	5.90	6.10	6.30	6.45	6.08
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.40	7.40	7.45	7.25	7.10	7.15	7.15	7.10	7.10	7.25	7.25	7.45	7.25
,, forequarter	,,	4.30	4.25	4.40	4.20	4.15	4.18	4.10	4.00	4.08	4.33	4.28	4.33	4.22
,, loin ..	,,	7.75	7.70	7.70	7.90	8.20	8.40	8.10	7.75	7.95	8.10	8.10	8.45	8.01
,, chops, loin	,,	9.20	9.10	9.25	9.00	8.80	8.90	8.75	8.60	8.75	8.75	9.05	9.15	8.94
,, ,, leg	,,	8.40	8.25	8.35	8.10	7.85	7.90	7.95	7.70	7.75	7.80	7.80	8.10	8.00
Pork, leg ..	,,	13.60	12.70	12.70	13.00	13.20	12.70	12.60	12.70	12.90	13.40	13.70	13.90	13.09
,, loin ..	,,	13.60	12.90	12.80	13.50	13.40	13.20	13.25	12.95	13.10	13.60	13.80	13.80	13.33
,, chops ..	,,	13.60	13.60	13.50	13.55	13.30	13.15	13.20	13.20	13 25	13.50	13.80	13.80	13.45

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.43	5.43	5.43	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.40
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.40	4.40	4.25	4.25	4.05	4.05	4.15	4.35	4.35	4.25	4.20	4.25	4.25
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.70	7.50	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.48
Tea	lb.	26.85	26.85	26.85	26.85	26.85	26.85	26.85	26.85	27.45	30.05	30.25	30.35	27.74
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	,,	3.23	3.38	3.55	3.45	3.48	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.45
Sago	,,	3.08	3.03	3.03	3.03	3.13	3.03	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.13	3.23	3.28	3.09
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.95	8.25	8.35	8.35	8.30	8.35	8.45	8.45	8.55	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.40
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.15	7.15	7.20	7.15	7.20	7.15	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.15	7.15	7.14
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.53	3.53	3.58	3.58	3.60	3.60	3.63	3.63	3.53	3.53	3.45	3.50	3.56
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	10.10	10.35	10.30	10.50	10.55	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.50	10.55	10.60	10.60	10.43
Currants	,,	8.60	8.65	8.60	8.60	8.70	8.65	8.70	8.80	8.89	9.00	8.94	9.00	8.76
Apricots, dried ..	,,	14.85	15.05	15.25	15.45	15.55	15.45	15.63	15.70	15.70	15.80	15.90	15.90	15.52
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.30	9.30	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.50	9.55	9.55	9.60	9.43
Pears, canned ..	,,	9.65	9.75	9.85	10.00	10.05	9.95	9.85	9.95	10.15	10.25	10.35	10.40	10.02
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.30	11.25	11.30	11.30	12.25	12.65	12.85	13.40	11.78
Potatoes	7 lb.	16.83	23.08	19.51	18.57	11.02	10.43	14.42	18.17	18.29	23.03	25.87	13.20	17.70
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.67	3.83	3.61	3.69	3.97	3.56	3.75	4.11	3.92	3.72	3.34	1.18	3.53
Soap	,,	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	7.07	6.89	6.89	6.89	6.97
Kerosene	quart	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.28	5.39	5.15
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.45	19.50	19.50
Cheese, mild ..	,,	13.56	13.56	13.31	13.31	13.50	13.39	13.39	13.39	13.44	13.31	13.31	13.44	13.41
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	17.40	21.70	21.00	23.90	27.00	23.60	22.00	15.40	15.10	12.60	14.60	15.70	19.17
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	20.20	20.10	20.10	20.10	20.00	19.90	19.45	19.45	19.45	19.75	20.15	20.15	19.90
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	9.10	9.20	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.35	9.35	9.40	9.44	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.33
,, fresh ..	1 quart	6.95	7.45	7.50	7.30	7.25	7.25	7.30	7.30	6.90	6.85	6.85	6.85	7.15
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	10.90	10.80	11.20	11.20	11.20	11.05	10.70	10.40	10.40	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.77
,, rib	,,	8.80	8.65	8.85	9.05	9.10	8.90	8.70	8.30	8.20	8.40	8.40	8.55	8.66
,, steak, rump ..	,,	15.70	15.60	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.80	15.60	15.50	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.50	15.63
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	6.95	6.90	7.20	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.10	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	7.10	7.05
,, sausages ..	,,	5.44	5.44	5.50	5.50	5.44	5.56	5.56	5.44	5.44	5.44	5.44	5.56	5.48
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	9.00	9.00	9.25	9.25	9.05	9.05	8.80	8.65	8.70	8.85	8.85	9.00	8.95
,, ,, brisket	,,	6.95	6.95	7.10	7.15	6.95	6.80	6.65	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.85	6.85
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.45	7.40	7.95	8.20	7.95	7.85	7.85	7.35	7.60	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.74
,, forequarter	,,	4.25	4.20	4.85	4.95	4.90	4.95	4.80	4.50	4.55	4.55	4.50	4.55	4.63
,, loin ..	,,	7.20	7.20	7.90	7.70	7.55	7.35	7.30	7.05	7.20	7.25	7.25	7.45	7.37
,, chops, loin	,,	8.25	8.45	8.65	8.95	8.55	8.50	8.60	7.95	8.15	8.05	8.05	8.30	8.37
,, ,, leg	,,	8.55	8.40	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.80	8.85	8.45	8.35	8.55	8.55	8.80	8.65
Pork, leg ..	,,	12.20	12.10	12.40	12.50	12.20	12.30	12.30	12.20	12.80	13.20	13.50	13.75	12.62
,, loin ..	,,	12.25	12.25	12.60	12.65	12.60	12.60	12.50	12.60	13.40	13.60	13.90	14.00	12.91
,, chops ..	,,	12.70	12.70	12.95	13.00	13.10	13.10	13.05	13.10	13.80	13.90	14.10	14.15	13.30

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.58
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05
,, self-raising ..	,,	8.32	8.32	8.32	8.27	8.27	8.27	8.27	8.27	8.27	8.32	8.27	8.27	8.29
Tea	lb.	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	26.95	29.14	29.91	29.82	27.62
Sugar	,,	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98
Rice (Australian) ..	,,	3.02	3.18	3.32	3.32	3.32	3.27	3.25	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.34	3.34	3.27
Sago	,,	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.98	2.98	2.98	3.00	3.05	3.14	3.25	3.03
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.95	8.02	8.15	8.08	8.08	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.14
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.73	6.73	6.76
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.59	3.59	3.73	3.64	3.68	3.64	3.64	3.59	3.45	3.43	3.45	3.36	3.57
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	10.64	10.64	10.64	10 64	10.64	10.55	10.64	10 64	10.64	10.68	10.77	11.09	10.68
Currants	,,	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.59	9.55	9.45	9.45	9 55	9.55	9.54
Apricots, dried ..	,,	15.45	15.45	15.73	15.86	15.82	15.82	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.77	15.95	16.50	15.83
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.45	10.45	10.59	10.55	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.55	10.68	10.68	10.55	10.55	10.55
Pears, canned ..	,,	10.95	10.95	11.00	10.95	10.95	10.91	10.91	10.95	10.91	10.91	10.86	11.05	10.94
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.42	13.92	13.92	14.57	14.69	13.65
Potatoes	7 lb.	17.09	24.23	22.82	21.27	8.77	8.18	12.55	14.55	15.32	19.14	11.59	8.55	15.34
Onions, brown ..	lb.	4.00	4.09	3.73	3.84	4.27	3.93	4.02	4.20	3.86	2.64	1.27	1.21	3.42
Soap	,,	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.12	6.15	6.18	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.15
Kerosene	quart	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4 57	4.57	4.66	4.66	4.55
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19 00	19.00	19.00	19.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.23	13.27	13.27
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	18.77	24.73	19.27	23.32	26.91	22.64	17.36	15.55	14.55	14.55	14.45	15.45	18.96
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	14.68	14.73	14.50	14.45	14.59	14.50	14.50	14.64	14.73	14.64	15.09	15.09	14.68
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.27	9.32	9 32	9.32	9.27	9.32	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.23	9.23	9.28
,, fresh ..	quart	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	8.80	8.85	8.75	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.65	8.70	8.70	8.70	9.00	9.20	8.73
,, rib	,,	5.70	5.75	5.75	5.65	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.75	5.75	5.75	6.05	6.30	5.80
,, steak, rump ..	,,	11.35	11.40	11.50	11.35	11.30	11.25	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.70	11.85	11.44
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	5.75	5.80	5.80	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	6.05	6.20	5.83
,, sausages ..	,,	5.80	5.85	5.85	5.80	5.85	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.95	5.95	5.84
Beef, (corned) silverside	,,	7.40	7.45	7.55	7.35	7.25	7.30	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.65	7.75	7.43
,, ,, brisket	,,	5.45	5.60	5.60	5.45	5.50	5.40	5.50	5.40	5.40	5.45	5.70	5.80	5.52
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.70	7.65	7.65	7.70	7.65	7.40	7.60	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.40	7.50	7.55
,, forequarter	,,	5.20	5.15	5.10	5.05	5.00	5.05	5.20	5.00	5.00	5.05	4.95	5.05	5.07
,, loin ..	,,	7.45	7.50	7.40	7.45	7.40	7.20	7.30	7.15	7.25	7.25	7.45	7.30	7.34
,, chops, loin	,,	7.60	7.65	7.60	7.65	7.55	7.40	7.55	7.50	7.50	7.60	7.70	7.65	7.58
,, ,, leg	,,	7.75	7.80	7.75	7.80	7.80	7.70	7.75	7.70	7.70	7.75	7.90	7.85	7.77
Pork, leg ..	,,	11.55	11.55	11.45	11.25	11.30	11.05	11.40	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.40	11.45	11.36
,, loin ..	,,	11.45	11.45	11.35	11.20	11.20	11.20	11.35	11.40	11.35	11.40	11.60	11.65	11.38
,, chops ..	,,	11.50	11.45	11.50	11.30	11.40	11.35	11.50	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.65	11.70	11.50

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.55	4.55	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.55	4.55	4.60	4.65	4.65	4.60	4.59
,, self-raising ..	,,	6.75	6.75	6.70	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.70	6.70	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.74
Tea	lb.	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	29.95	30.45	30.75	28.48
Sugar	,,	3.94	3.94	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	4.28	3.96	3.93	3.93	3.96
Rice (Australian) ..	,,	3 00	3.08	3.30	3.45	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.45	3.39
Sago	,,	2.80	2.78	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.70	2.70	2.70	2.80	2.85	2.85	3.03	2.79
Jam, plum ..	1½lb.	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.05	8.10	8.10	8.02
Golden Syrup ..	2lb.	6.40	6.50	6.55	6.55	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.60	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.52
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.43	3.43	3.43	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.43	3.38	3.38	3.35	3.44
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	8.60	8.60	8.40	8.60	8.90	8.80	8.75	8.80	8.80	8.85	8.90	9.10	8.76
Currants	,,	7.95	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.05	8.10	8.05	8.00	8.15	8.20	8.04
Apricots, dried ..	,,	13.95	13.95	14.20	14.20	14.40	14.40	14.50	14.50	14.60	14.90	14.80	14.78	14.44
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.75	9.75	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.95	9.90	10.00	9.86
Pears, canned ..	,,	9.70	9.75	9.75	9.70	9.80	9.80	9.75	9.80	9.80	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.78
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	11.35	11.35	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.60	11.85	11.95	12.70	12.90	11.79
Potatoes	7 lb.	15.14	21.29	19.57	16.14	10.75	11.00	14.29	16.29	17.64	21.33	16.00	11.68	15.93
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.14	2.79	2.86	2.93	3.07	3.07	3.07	4.21	5.10	4.88	4.88	4 88	3.66
Soap	,,	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.65
Kerosene	quart	4.56	4.44	4.31	4.31	4.31	4.29	4.29	4.29	4.29	4.29	4.36	4.36	4.34
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.05	19.10	19.26
Cheese, mild ..	,,	12.25	12.25	12.20	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.20	12.20	12.27
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	14.60	20.60	17.20	18.25	22.60	19.70	17.70	13.15	11.30	12.15	11.70	12.50	15.95
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	18.50	18.50	18.00	17.85	17.75	17.65	17.75	17.55	17.55	17.45	17.45	17.65	17.80
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.25	9.25	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.17
,, fresh ..	quart	5.95	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.95	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.87
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.60	9.40	9.85	10.30	9.75	9.40	9.40	9.05	9.05	9.00	8.90	8.95	9.39
,, rib	,,	7.75	7.90	8.35	8.85	8.50	8.20	7.95	7.55	7.55	7 45	7.25	7.35	7.89
,, steak, rump ..	,,	12.60	13.00	13.40	14.10	13.70	13.40	13.30	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.80	12.90	13.16
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	8.00	8.20	8.50	8.90	8.60	8.50	8.10	7.70	7.70	7.70	7.40	7.70	8.08
,, sausages ..	,,	5.40	5.30	5.20	5.40	5.40	5.50	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.26
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	9.40	9.50	9.70	10.10	9.70	9.50	9.25	8.95	9.05	9.10	9.20	9.10	9.38
,, ,, brisket	,,	7.10	7.20	7.55	7.90	7.55	7.20	6.90	6.45	6.45	6.45	6.50	6.75	7.00
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.60	7.45	8.15	8.25	8.20	8.10	7.65	7.40	7.40	7.45	7.40	7.65	7.73
,, forequarter	,,	4.25	4.10	4.80	4.70	4.75	4.60	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.15	4.00	4.15	4.34
,, loin ..	,,	6.90	6.95	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.30	7.10	6.85	6.95	6.95	6.80	6.80	7.07
,, chops, loin	,,	7.90	7.80	8.30	8.40	8.30	8.20	8.20	7.80	7.70	7.70	7.70	8.00	8.00
,, ,, leg	,,	8.80	8.70	9.30	9.40	9.30	9.20	9.00	8.60	8.50	8.70	8.40	8.80	8.89
Pork, leg ..	,,	11.25	11.25	11.10	11.25	11.25	11.30	11.45	11.35	11.25	11.30	11.35	11 75	11.32
,, loin ..	,,	11.70	11.70	11.75	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.80	11.85	11.70	11.85	11.80	12.10	11.83
,, chops ..	,,	12.10	12.10	12.00	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.00	11.80	12.00	12.00	12.30	12.09

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.85	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.90	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.97
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.35	7.35	7.30	7.39
Tea	lb.	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	30.90	30.90	30.90	28.65
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	,,	3.25	3.55	3.60	3.55	3.60	3.50	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago	,,	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.20	3.25	3.15	3.15	3.20	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.19
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.75	8.90	9.05	8.95	9.00	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.00	9.00	9.05	8.96
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.30	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.80	3.75	3.80	3.80	3.85	3.90	3.78	3.70	3.70	3.73	3.75	3.73	3.77
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	9.45	9.45	9.55	9.70	9.70	9.70	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.25	10.25	10.60	9.90
Currants	,,	8.80	8.80	8.95	8.85	8.85	8.90	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.90	8.95	8.87
Apricots, dried ..	,,	14.70	14.70	14.70	14.80	15.00	14.90	14.60	14.60	14.70	14.70	14.70	14.90	14.75
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.95	11.03
Pears, canned ..	,,	11.55	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.55	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.63
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	12.40	12.40	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.80	13.70	13.80	14.10	12.85
Potatoes	7 lb.	11.15	16.85	16.40	18.00	9.95	11.00	14.30	17.75	16.40	17.25	9.40	7.20	13.80
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.35	2.80	2.90	3.75	4.50	4.55	4.10	4.25	4.25	3.55	2.55	2.00	3.46
Soap	,,	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67
Kerosene	quart	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.74	4.78	4.71
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.93
Cheese, mild ..	,,	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	15.00	15.00	15.00	15 10	15.10	15.10	14.93
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	15.60	18.50	19.40	26.70	29.00	26.10	20.80	12.80	12.50	11.75	12.70	13.80	18.30
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	17.30	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.39
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.25	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.45	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.35	9.38
,, fresh ..	quart	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.00	9.30	9.30	9.40	9.60	9.60	9.30	9.25	9.20	9.40	9.30	9.30	9.33
,, rib	,,	7.70	8.00	7.90	8.20	8.35	8.35	8.25	8.15	8.05	8.35	8.25	8.25	8.15
,, steak, rump ..	,,	14.90	15.00	15.10	15.30	15.30	15.50	15.50	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.30
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	7.70	7.80	8.10	8.20	8.20	8.25	8.15	8.10	8.00	8.20	8.10	8.10	8.08
,, sausages ..	,,	6.35	6.40	6.40	6.30	6.50	6.70	6.60	6.70	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.50	6.52
Beef (corned) silverside	,,	8.45	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.60	8.60	8.50	8.70	8.50	8.60	8.62
,, ,, brisket	,,	6.45	6.65	6.65	6.75	6.70	6.80	6.55	6.65	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.62
Mutton, leg ..	,,	7.45	7.65	7.65	7.85	8.25	8.20	8.05	8.05	7.95	7.90	7.95	7.90	7.90
,, forequarter	,,	4.35	4.40	4.40	4.50	4.70	4.70	4.80	4.90	4.80	4.65	4.65	4.55	4.62
,, loin ..	,,	7.05	7.20	7.30	7.50	7.70	7.70	7.75	7.75	7.45	7.05	7.35	7.25	7.42
,, chops, loin	,,	7.85	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.35	8.45	8.45	8.40	8.40	8.30	8.10	8.10	8.25
,, ,, leg	,,	8.20	8.40	8.50	8.50	8.70	8.60	8.50	8.50	8.45	8.35	8.45	8.35	8.46
Pork, leg ..	,,	14.10	14.00	13.90	14.00	13.80	13.50	13.40	13.40	13.40	13.40	13.30	13.10	13.61
,, loin ..	,,	14.00	13.90	13.90	14.00	14.00	13.80	13.50	13.50	13.40	13.40	13.10	13.10	13.63
,, chops ..	,,	14.10	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.00	13.80	13.90	13.80	13.70	13.60	13.20	13.20	13.78

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1939.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1939.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	3.80	3.00	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.80	3.78
,, self-raising ..	,,	6.15	6.15	6.15	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.55	6.55	6.60	6.30
Tea	lb.	26.90	26.90	26.90	27.00	27.10	27.10	27.00	27.00	26.90	29.95	29.95	30.05	27.73
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.28	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.33	4.28	4.00	4.00	4.14
Rice (Australian)	,,	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.68
Sago	,,	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.60	3.60	3.70	3.56
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.80	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.85	7.85	7.95	7.95	7.90
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.70	3.75	3.80	3.75	3.85	3.90	3.90	3.88	3.78	3.73	3.65	3.63	3.78
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	10.15	10.15	10.25	10.30	10.30	10.25	10.25	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.60	10.32
Currants	,,	9.20	9.22	9.22	9.22	9.35	9.35	9.30	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.25	9.30	9.25
Apricots, dried ..	,,	14.44	14.44	14.44	14.44	14.56	14.88	14.78	14.78	14.67	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.65
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.45	10.45	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.55	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.53
Pears, canned ..	,,	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.35	10.40	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.41
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	12.40	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.33	12.33	12.50	12.50	12.70	13.80	12.51
Potatoes	7 lb.	17.63	20.40	18.96	18.10	15.98	15.08	14.80	16.65	17.58	19.68	22.87	20.53	18.19
Onions, brown ..	lb.	4.30	4.56	4.50	4.25	4.30	4.15	4.15	4.55	4.70	4.60	4.33	2.75	4.26
Soap, ...	,,	7.19	7.19	7.28	7.19	7.19	7.19	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.10
Kerosene	quart	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.63	5.71	5.55
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	12.65	12.95	13.30	13.30	13.50	13.50	13.56	13.60	13.70	13.90	13.90	13.80	13.47
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	15.70	21.40	18.10	22.90	27.67	23.70	23.00	15.30	13.00	11.90	12.20	18.00	18.57
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	16.00	16.00	15.92
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.50	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.58
,, fresh ..	quart	6.10	6.10	6.70	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.67	6.56	6.56	6.62
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	8.90	9.00	8.90	9.00	9.00	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.30	9.60	9.50	9.50	9.17
,, rib	,,	7.55	7.45	7.55	7.55	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.75	8.15	8.15	7.90	7.72
,, steak, rump ..	,,	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.90	13.60	13.30	13.50	13.03
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	6.90	6.90	7.00	6.80	6.90	6.90	6.80	6.90	7.10	7.50	7.40	7.60	7.06
,, sausages ..	,,	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	6.00	6.00	5.90	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.94
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.20	9.50	9.60	9.50	9.22
,, ,, brisket	,,	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.85	8.00	7.90	7.68
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.30	8.15	8.30	8.30	8.20	8.20	8.05	8.10	8.30	8.80	8.90	8.50	8.34
,, forequarter	,,	5.20	4.95	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.15	5.15	5.50	5.85	5.85	5.45	5.20
,, loin	,,	7.40	7.35	7.40	7.25	7.50	7.30	7.35	7.40	7.55	7.95	7.85	7.95	7.52
,, chops, loin	,,	9.20	9.10	9.40	9.30	9.10	9.10	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.70	9.50	9.30	9.23
,, ,, leg	,,	9.40	9.20	9.50	9.50	9.30	9.40	9.10	9.20	9.40	9.70	9.80	9.80	9.44
Pork, leg ..	,,	11.50	11.10	11.50	11.70	11.30	11.10	11.30	11.70	12.00	12.20	12.20	12.20	11.65
,, loin ..	,,	11.80	11.60	11.80	11.50	11.60	11.30	11.70	11.90	12.20	12.50	12.50	12.60	11.92
,, chops ..	,,	11.90	11.80	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.50	11.80	12.00	12.40	12.70	12.70	12.30	12.07

Section II.

Weekly House Rents (a) in Metropolitan and Country Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.				
	1935.(b)	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
NEW SOUTH WALES—					
Sydney	19 7	20 4	21 8	22 7	23 3
Newcastle	18 6	18 5	18 8	19 4	20 0
Broken Hill	14 2	14 0	14 0	15 4	16 0
Goulburn	18 11	18 10	18 4	18 4	18 3
Bathurst	17 1	17 6	17 1	17 3	17 8
Weighted Average	**19 5**	**20 0**	**21 3**	**22 1**	**22 9**
VICTORIA—					
Melbourne	18 7	19 3	20 5	21 0	21 5
Ballarat	14 8	14 8	14 8	14 7	15 0
Bendigo	15 2	15 1	15 1	14 10	15 4
Geelong	17 7	18 6	18 7	19 1	19 8
Warrnambool	18 7	17 11	18 0	19 2	19 4
Weighted Average	**18 5**	**18 11**	**20 0**	**20 6**	**21 0**
QUEENSLAND—					
Brisbane	15 10	16 9	18 6	18 11	19 2
Toowoomba	16 5	17 2	17 7	17 5	17 9
Rockhampton	13 1	13 0	16 4	16 9	16 11
Townsville	11 8(c)	11 0(c)	17 8	18 0	18 1
Bundaberg	14 2(d)	13 4(d)	12 1	13 2	13 5
Weighted Average	**15 7**	**16 4**	**18 0**	**18 5**	**18 8**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—					
Adelaide	16 2	17 4	18 8	19 6	19 11
Kadina, etc.	8 8	8 2	7 9	8 1	8 2
Port Pirie	13 9	13 6	13 10	14 5	14 11
Mount Gambier	13 9	13 11	14 4	14 5	14 5
Peterborough	14 7	15 6	15 5	15 6	15 9
Weighted Average	**15 10**	**16 10**	**18 1**	**18 10**	**19 3**
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—					
Perth	17 5	18 5	19 4	19 7	19 9
Kalgoorlie	23 1	25 2	27 5	27 8	27 8
Northam	16 11	17 1	18 0	18 5	18 7
Bunbury	17 10	19 0	20 7	20 10	21 1
Geraldton	20 8	21 8	22 4	22 1	22 4
Weighted Average	**17 11**	**18 11**	**20 0**	**20 3**	**20 5**
TASMANIA—					
Hobart	19 7	19 10	20 2	20 6	20 9
Launceston	17 1	17 5	18 7	18 10	19 1
Burnie	15 4	16 1	17 1	17 5	17 6
Devonport	16 2	15 7	15 2	15 10	16 0
Queenstown	16 1	16 3	16 9	16 6	16 11
Weighted Average	**18 5**	**18 7**	**19 3**	**19 6**	**19 9**
Weighted Average, Australia	**18 3**	**18 10**	**20 1**	**20 8**	**21 2**

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny. (b) Not strictly comparable with subsequent years.
(c) Charters Towers. (d) Warwick.

SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES.

"Court" Series Index.*—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Prices Index Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure.—"Court" Series for Quarter ended June, 1940.

(Base : Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1923–27 = 81.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1939.			1940.		Year ended June, 1940.
	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	
NEW SOUTH WALES—						
Sydney	75.4	75.5	76.3	76.6	78.5	76.7
Newcastle	72.7	72.6	73.7	74.0	76.2	74.1
Broken Hill	77.6	76.3	76.8	77.2	79.3	77.5
Goulburn	74.1	74.0	74.2	74.6	76.6	74.9
Bathurst	71.2	71.3	72.0	72.4	74.3	72.5
Weighted Average—5 Towns	75.2	75.3	76.1	76.3	78.4	76.5
VICTORIA—						
Melbourne	74.6	74.3	75.1	75.6	78.0	75.8
Ballarat	70.6	70.8	71.1	71.4	73.1	71.6
Bendigo	70.4	70.3	71.8	72.0	74.1	72.0
Geelong	73.6	73.6	74.2	74.1	76.0	74.5
Warrnambool	74.0	74.3	75.1	75.8	77.0	75.5
Weighted Average—5 Towns	74.2	74.1	75.1	75.3	77.6	75.5
QUEENSLAND—						
Brisbane	70.1	70.1	70.7	71.8	72.9	71.4
Toowoomba	69.2	69.0	69.8	70.7	72.0	70.4
Rockhampton	69.9	69.7	70.6	71.8	72.9	71.2
Townsville	74.1	73.8	74.6	75.4	76.7	75.1
Bundaberg	68.4	68.2	68.9	69.6	70.7	69.4
Weighted Average—5 Towns	70.2	70.2	70.9	71.9	73.0	71.5
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—						
Adelaide	73.5	73.1	73.3	73.8	75.6	74.0
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	65.4	65.7	65.9	65.6	66.9	66.0
Port Pirie	72.4	72.6	72.5	72.4	74.0	72.9
Mount Gambier	70.8	70.1	71.2	70.1	71.8	70.8
Peterborough	72.4	72.5	72.9	72.9	74.3	73.2
Weighted Average—5 Towns	73.2	72.8	73.0	73.4	75.2	73.6
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—						
Perth, Fremantle	73.2	73.2	72.8	73.0	75.4	73.6
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	86.4	86.5	86.2	86.1	88.4	86.9
Northam	74.3	74.4	73.9	73.8	76.3	74.6
Bunbury	75.8	76.0	75.9	75.6	78.0	76.4
Geraldton	78.2	78.2	77.6	77.5	79.6	78.3
Weighted Average—5 Towns	74.3	74.3	74.0	74.1	76.5	74.7
TASMANIA—						
Hobart	73.4	73.3	74.4	74.3	75.9	74.5
Launceston	71.9	71.7	72.4	72.7	74.6	72.9
Burnie	71.0	71.1	72.0	72.0	73.4	72.1
Devonport	69.7	69.6	70.2	70.3	71.7	70.5
Queenstown	73.3	73.0	73.5	74.0	75.2	73.9
Weighted Average—5 Towns	72.6	72.5	73.5	73.6	75.2	73.7
Weighted Average—30 Towns	74.1	74.0	74.7	75.0	77.0	75.2
Weighted Average—6 Capitals	74.2	74.1	75.0	75.3	77.2	75.4

SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Charters Towers (Q.)	70.5	71.7	72.5	73.2	74.4	72.9
Warwick (Q.)	67.2	67.5	68.2	68.4	69.9	68.5
Port Augusta (S.)	71.2	71.3	71.6	71.5	73.2	71.9

* See page 36 for explanation.

Section IV.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1939.

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1939, except in the case of the rates for farming occupations which are the ruling or predominant rates at that date. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 86s. 0d. to 101s. 0d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 91s. 0d. and 98s. 0d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 44, *see* footnotes below.

GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coopering—						
Coopers	115 0	120 0	116 6	115 0	111 2	110 0
Furniture—						
Cabinetmakers ..	108 0	105 0	116 11	101 0	106 2	101 0
Carpet Planners ..	108 0	105 0	..	101 0	98 11	101 0
Chairmakers ..	108 0	105 0	116 11	101 0	106 2	101 0
French Polishers ..	108 0	105 0	116 11	101 0	103 2	101 0
Upholsterers ..	108 0	103 0	116 11	99 0	106 2	99 0
Woodcarvers ..	108 0	105 0	116 11	101 0	106 2	101 0
Wood Machinists ..	108 0	90/ to 105/	116 11	86/ to 101/	103/2 & 106/2	86/ & 101/
Mattress Making—Wire—						
Finishers	103 0	96 0	110 6	92 0	..	92 0
Makers	103 6	96 0	110 6	92 0	103 2	92 0
Picture Framing—						
Compo. Workers ..	102 0	90 0	103 0	86 0	97 2	..
General Hands ..	102 6	90 0	103 0	86 6	97 2	77 0
Gilders	102 0	93 0	103 0	89 0	97 2	..
Mount Cutters ..	102 0	93 0	103 0	89 0	97 2	..
Saw Milling and Timber Yards—						
Box and Casemakers	95 0	93 0	92 11	90 0	89 8	90 0
Labourers ..	82 0	80 0	92 0	77 0	82 2	77 0
Machinists—						
Box Printing ..	88 0	86 0	92 11	83 0	85 2	83 0
Boults Carver ..	107 0	104 0	98 6	101 0	102 8	101 0
Nailing	89 0	87 0	93 0	84 0	90 8	84 0
Planing	92/ & 101/	90/ to 99/	93 10	87/ to 96/	96/8 & 102/8	87/ to 96/
Shaping	106 0	104 0	111 4	101 0	106 8	101 0
Ordermen	95 0	93 0	94 10	90 0	96 2	90 0
Saw Doctors ..	114 0	113 0	107 8	110 0	112 2	110 0
Sawyers—						
Band or Jig ..	96/ to 109/	94/ to 107/	101 2	91/ to 104/	93/8 & 99/8	91/ to 104/
Circular ..	96/ to 103/	94/ to 101/	98 6	91/ & 98/	91/8 & 99/8	91/ to 98/
Stackers	89 0	87 0	107 8	84 0	87 2	84 0
Wood Turners ..	106 0	104 0	101 3	101 0	105 2	101 0

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Agricultural Implements						
Assemblers ..	100 0	88/ to 98/	93 0	85/ to 95/	89/8 & 93/2	..
Bulldozermen ..	113 0	92 0	..	89 0	..	..
Drillers	96/ & 102/	86 0	..	83 0	..	..
Fitters	100/ & 112/	93/ to 98/	..	90/ to 95/	97/2 & 100/2	..
Labourers—unskilled	82 0	80 0	..	77 0	82 2	..
Machinists—Iron ..	102/ & 112/	86/ to 110/	..	83/ to 107/	94/2 & 106/2	..
Painters—Brush ..	90 0	86 0	..	83 0	..	..
Scroll ..	90 6	95 0	..	92 0	..	..
Patternmakers ..	121 0	119 0	..	116 0	115 2	..
Sheet Iron Workers	87/ to 93/	100/ & 108/	..	97/ to 105/	..	..
Strikers	91/ & 93/	85/ & 91/	..	86/ & 88/	92 2	..

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 35 hours (2) 36 hours. (3) 40 hours. (4) 42 hours. (5) 43 hours. (6) 48 hours. (7) 45 hours. (8) 46 hours. (10) 46¼ hours—Daylight, 48 hours, artificial light, 45 hours. (11) 47 hours. (12) 47½ hours. (13) 60 hours. (14) 86 hours per fortnight. (15) 96 hours per fortnight. (16) 48 hours, summer, 46 hours, winter. (17) 88 hours per fortnight. (18) 50 hours. (19) 52 hours.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Boiler Making—						
Journeymen ..	112 0	110 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Railwaymen ..	112 0	110 0	109 11	107 0	112 2	107 0
Brassworking—						
Coremakers ..	91/ to 112/	89/ to 110/	113 8	86/ to 107/	112 2	86/ to 107/
Dressers	93/ & 95/	91/ to 93/	90 4	88/ & 90/	95 2	88/ to 90/
Finishers	100/ to 109/	98/ to 108/	113 8	95/ to 105/	112 2	95/ to 105/
Furnacemen ..	97 0	95 0	90/4 to 99/8	92 0	97 2	92 0
Moulders	91/ to 112/	89/ to 110/	106/& 113/8	86/ to 107/	112 2	86/ to 107/
Cycles—						
Assemblers ..	90 0	96 0	101/4 & 113 8	89 0	92 2	80 0
Frame Builders ..	91 8	96/ & 98/3	113 8	98 0	..	80 0
Repairers	91 8	96/ & 98/3	113 8	98 0	..	80 0
Turners (Motor) ..	109 0	107 0	120 4	..	112 2	104 0
Electrical Installation—						
Cable Jointers ..	118 0	107/ & 109/	114 1	104/ & 106/	..	104/ & 106/
Fitters	118 0	110 0	116 10	107 0	112 2	107 0
Mechanics	..	107 0	114 1	104 0	112 2	104 0
Patrolmen	112 0	91/6 & 103/	91 9	87/ & 97/	..	87/ & 97/
Wiremen	..	103 0	114 1	100 0	105 2	100 0
Other Adults ..	..	80 0	89 0	97 0	82 2	77 0
Electrical Supply—						
Armature Winders ..	118 0	110 0	116 10	107 0	112 2	107 0
Cable Jointers ..	118 0	107/ & 109/	114 1	104/ & 106/	..	104/ & 106/
Instrument Makers ..	118 0	110 0	116 10	107 0	112 2	107 0
Linesmen	112 0	103 0	114 1	100 0	105 2	100 0
Meter Testers ..	112 0	98/ & 102/	114 1	95/ & 99/	..	95/ & 99/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	99/ & 100/	99 10	87/ & 97/	..	87/ & 99/
Shift Electricians ..	118 0	104/ & 110/	130 10	..	..	101/ & 107/
Switchboard Attendants	..	101 6	89 0	98 6	..	98 6
Other Adults ..	97 0	80 0	89 0	77 0	..	77 0
Electrical Trades—						
Fitters	118 0	110 0	116 10	107 0	112 2	107 0
Mechanics	112 0	107 0	114 1	104 0	112 2	104 0
Wiremen	112 0	107 0	114 1	104 6	105 2	104 0
Electroplating—						
Platers	100/6 & 108/6	88/ to 110/	103 0	85/ to 107/	106 2	85/ to 107/
Polishers	98/6 & 102/6	101 6	97/6 & 103/	88 0	94 2	..
Engineering—						
Blacksmiths ..	113 0	111 0	117 4	108 0	112 2	108 0
Borers and Slotters ..	112 0	110 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Brassfinishers ..	112 0	110 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Coppersmiths ..	112 0	110 0	117 4	107 0	112 2	107 0
Drillers—Radial ..	92/ to 102/	90/ & 107/	97 8	87/ to 104/	109 2	87/ to 104/
Fitters	112 0	110 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Millers	109 0	107 0	113 8	104 0	112 2	104 0
Patternmakers ..	121 0	119 0	119 0	116 0	121 2	116 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge	100 0	98 0	95 0	95 0	93 2	95 0
Other	109 0	107 0	113 8	104 0	112 2	104 0
Shapers	109 0	107 0	113 8	104 0	112 2	104 0
Turners	109 0	107 0	110 8	104 0	112 2	104 0
Ironworking—Assistants—						
Boilermakers' Helpers	91 0	89 0	90 4	86 0	91 2	86 0
" Labourers	91 0	89 0	90 4	86 0	82 2	86 0
Engineers' Labourers	91 0	89 0	88 8	86 0	91 2	86 0
Furnacemen's Assists.	91 0	89 0	88 8	86 0	91 2	86 0
Moulders' Labourers..	91 0	89 0	88 8	86 0	91 2	86 0
Strikers	91/ & 93/	89/ & 91/	90 4	86/ & 88/	82 2	86/ & 88/

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Moulding—Iron—						
Coremakers—Machine	91/ to 102/	89/ to 100/	113 8	86/ to 97/	97 2	86/ to 97/
,, Other	112 0	110 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Dressers and Fettlers	83/ & 95/	91/ & 93/	90 4	88/ & 90/	93 2	88/ & 90/
Furnaceman	97/ to 110/	95/ & 107/	90/4 to 99/8	92/ & 104/	97/2 & 112/2	92/ & 104/
Moulders—Machine	91/ to 102/	89/ & 100/	106 0	86/ & 97/	97 2	86/ & 97/
,, Other	112 0	100 0	113 8	107 0	112 2	107 0
Sheet Metal Working—						
Canister Makers	88 6	88/ & 92/	99 4	82/ to 90/	94 2	99/ & 102/8
Japanners—						
Coating or Brush-work	97 0	85 0	101 2	85 6	..	..
Ornamental	99 0	100 0	101 2	97 6	..	..
Solderers	88/6 & 92/6	88/ & 92/	101 2	84 0	90 2	..
Tinsmiths	102 6	100/ & 108/	101 2	94/6 & 101/6	102/2 & 110/2	99/ & 102/8
Nailmaking—						
Case Wirers	88 0	81 0	..	[6]78 0	..	..
Labourers	88 0	81 0	..	[6]78 0	..	..
Setters Up	107 0	93 0	..	[6]78 to 92/6	..	..
Wire Working—						
Journeymen	102 0	96 0	..	[6]93 0	91 2	..

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Aerated Water and Cordials—						
Bottlers	84/6 & 87/	82/6 & 85/	84 0	[6]83 6	87 2	100 6
Drivers (Motor)	91/ to 98/	85/ to 92/	93/ & 101/	[6]84/ to 92/	94 2	86/ to 93/
,, (One Horse)	86 0	80 0	91 0	[6]81 0	94 2	81 0
Packers	88 0	82 6	84 0	[6]80 6	87 2	93 6
Wirers	88 0	82 6	..	[6]80 6	87 2	93 6
Baking (Bread)—						
Board Hands	119 0	113 8	102/ to 107/	[6]100 0	116 2	109 0
Carters (One Horse)	105 6	99 0	93 0	88 0	92 8	80 0
Doughmen	119/ to 121/6	113 8	109 6	[6]100 0	121 2	109 0
Ovenmen	127 6	113 8	107 0	[6]100 0	116 2	109 0
Singlehands	125 0	122 10	109 6	[6]105 0	121 2	109 0
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—						
Adult Males	88 0	83 0	84 0	[6]78 0	[6]90 2	83 0
Bakers	103 0	92 0	91 6	[6]83 0	[6]92 2	93 6
Mixers	94 0	92 0	91 6	[6]81 0	[6]92 2	98 0
Brewing—						
Adult Males	100 0	102 0	95 0	[6]97 6	105 0	[6]93 6
Bottlers and Washers	100 0	102 0	95 0	[6]97 6	105 0	[6]93 6
Cellarmen	100/ & 103/	105 3	100 0	[6]97 6	105 0	[6]93 6
Drivers (Two Horses)	103 0	89 0	97 0	99 6	105 0	86 0
,, (Motor under 3 tons)	109 0	93 0	97/ to 105/	102 6	105 0	90 0
Towermen	103 0	106 0	95 0	[6]100 6	105 0	.
Butchering (Carcass)—						
Chilling Room Hands	98 0	..	101 6	[6]121 6	88 2	.
Labourers (Beef)	102 0	87 6	89 0	[6]101 6	92 2	[6]85 6
,, (Mutton)	93 6	87 6	89 0	[6]101 6	92 2	..
Scalders	114 0	96 0	101 6	[6]115 6	92 2	..
Slaughtermen (Beef)	144 6	110 0	111 6	[6]136 6	109 8	[6]108 0
,, (Mutton)	(*a*)	110 0	111 6	[6]136 6	109 8	[6]108 0

(*a*) Piecework rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Butchering (Retail)—						
Carters (Cash Cutting)	109 0	98 6	101 6	93 6	[6]102 2	[11]92 6
,, ...	91 6	98 6	92 6	84 0	[6]87 2	..
General Hands ..	102 6	98 6	101 6	[6]92 6	[6]102 2	[11]92 6
Shopmen	101/6 & 109/	98 6	101 6	[6]92 6	[6]102/2 & 107/2	[11]92 6
Smallgoodsmen ..	96/6 & 104/	96 0	101 6	[6]92 6	[6]102 2	[11]100 0
Cold Storage and Ice—						
Chamber Hands ..	99/6 to 105/6	104 5	129 9	..	..	82 3
Pullers and Stackers..	93/ to 102/6	104 5	125 3	..	..	82 3
Confectionery—						
Journeymen ..	106 0	94 6	91 6	[6]83/ & 88/6	..	[6]84 6
Storemen	84 0	84/6 & 88/6	88 0	[6]78 0	..	[6]87 3
Ham and Bacon Curing—						
Curers—First Hand ..	118 0	106 0	113 0	[6]103 0	[6]110 2	[11]100 0
Cutters Up—First Hand	104 0	98 6	101 0	[6]95 6	[6]110 2	[11]92 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	91 6	94 9	[6]88 6	[6]95 8	[11]92 6
Lardmen	90 6	91/6 & 98/6	103 6	[6]88 6	[6]100 8	[11]92 6
Rollers and Trimmers	95 6	98 6	94 9	[6]95 6	[6]95/8 & 100/8	[11]92 6
Scalders	90 6	98 6	103 6	[6]95 6	[6]103 2	[11]92 6
Slaughtermen ..	104 6	106 0	113 0	[6]103 0	[6]110 2	[11]108 0
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	110 6	106 0	113 0	[6]101 0	[6]110 2	[11]100 0
Smokers—First Hand	96 6	98 6	107 0	[6]94 0	[6]95 8	[11]92 6
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Adult Males ..	84 0	84 0	84 0	84 0	[6]90 2	84 0
Solderers	91 0	91 0	101 2	91 0	[6]90 2	91 0
Malting—						
Maltsters	104/ & 106/	95 0	84 0	97 6	[6]97 2	[6]84 0
Milling—Condiments—						
Grinders	96 6	83 0	85 6	81 0	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	89 6	85 0	85 6	81 0	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	120 6	90 6	85 6	88 6	..	..
Milling—Flour—						
Millers—Head ..	111 0	111 0	112 6	111 0	111 0	117 0
,, Shift ..	98/ to 108/6	98/ to 108/6	14/ to 112/	98/ to 108/6	98/ to 108/6	[6]94/6 & 102/
Packermen	86 0	86 0	92 6	86 0	86 0	[6]85 6
Purifiermen ..	89 0	89 0	92 6	89 0	89 0	[6]81 0
Silksmen ..	89 0	89 0	92 6	89 0	89 0	[6]81 0
Storemen—Head ..	91/ & 96/	91/ & 96/	97 6	91/ & 96/	91/ & 96/	[6]90 0
Topmen	89 0	89 0	92 6	89 0	89 0	[6]85 6
Truckers and Others..	81/ & 86/	81/ & 85/	..	81/ & 85/	81/ & 85/	[6]81 0
Milling—Oatmeal—						
Kilnmen	92 0	83 6	85 6	80 6	..	..
Millers—Head ..	102 6	90 6	93/6 to 104/6	87 6	..	..
Pastrycooking—						
Carters	94 2	84 0	91 0	82 0	[6]91 8	81 0
Pastrycooks ..	108 6	104 0	112 0	[6]96 6	[6]102/2 & 100/8	[6]102 0

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaking—						
Bootmakers ..	105 0	105 0	105 0	105 0	95 0	105 0
Tailoring—Order—						
Cutters	110 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	112/2 & 122/2	110 0
Pressers	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	101 2	100 0
Tailors	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	101 2	100 0
Trimmers	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	101 2	100 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tailoring—Ready-made—						
Cutters	103 0	103 0	103 0	103 0	99 2	103 0
Folders	83 6	83 6	83 6	83 6	..	83 6
Machinists	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	..	100 0
Pressers	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	99 2	100 0
Tailors	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	99 2	100 0
Trimmers	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	99 2	100 0
Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—						
Carders	85 0	83 0	84 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Dyehousemen	86 6	83 0	84 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Labourers—General	85 0	83 0	84 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Pattern Weavers	85 0	86 0	..	86 0	86 0	86 0
Scourers	85 6	83 0	84 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Spinners	86 0	83 0	95 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Tuners	89/ to 100/6	84/ to 100/	84/ & 95/	84/ to 100/	84/ to 100/	84/ to 100/

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bookbinding—						
Bookbinders	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Finishers	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Marblers	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Paper Rulers	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Engraving (Process)—(*b*)						
Engravers	114 6	111/ & 116/	..	[6]97 0	..	..
Etchers—Half-tone	120 6	111/ & 116/	114 0	[6]109 6	112 2	..
Etchers—Line	114 6	111/ & 116/	106 0	[6]105/6 & 110/6	104 0	..
Operators	120 6	111/ & 116/	114 0	[6]109 6	112 2	..
Printers	114 6	111/ & 116/	104 0	[6]90 6	107 0	..
Routers	109 6	109 0	101 0	[6]90 6	96 11	..
Lithographing—						
Printers	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	..	104 0
Rotary Machinists	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	107 0	104 0
Stone Polishers	90 0	88 0	84 0	85 0	..	85 0
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—						
Compositors—						
Day Work	131 0	113 11	118 10	113 0	143 8	107 0
Night Work	[4]141 0	[4]131 4	126 2	[4]122 0	[4]156 5	117 0
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work	131 6	115 0	105 0	89 0	130 11	88 6
Night Work	[4]141 6	[4]125 0	110 0	[4]98 0	[4]143 8	97 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work	157/6 & 167/6	(*a*)	130 6	(*a*)	153 0	(*a*)
Night Work	[4]167/6 & 177/6	(*a*)	137 10	(*a*)	[3]165 9	(*a*)
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work	131 0	121 3	127 6	113 0	135 2	106 0
Night Work	[4]141 0	[4]131 3	132 6	[4]122 0	[4]147 11	117 0
Publishers	111/6 & 121/6	99/6 & 109/6	94/ to 110/	92/ to 100/	[5]119/10 & 122/7	86/ & 94/
Readers—						
Day Work	139 6	113 11	115 0	116 0	143 8	110 0
Night Work	[4]149 6	[4]131 4	120 0	[4]125 0	[4]156 5	119 0
Readers' Assistants—						
Day Work	108 6	89 3	100 0	89 0	115 2	83 0
Night Work	[4]118 6	[4]98 3	105 0	[4]98 0	[4]127 6	92 0
Stereotypers (First Class)—						
Day Work	[4]124 0	115 0	107/6 & 115/	101 0	[2]128 10	95 0
Night Work	[3]134 0	[4]125 0	112/6 & 120/	[4]110 0	[2]141 6	104 0

(*a*) Piece-work rates. (*b*) Other than in newspaper offices.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	109 & 118/	107/ & 116/	103/ & 112/	104/ & 113/	104 & 113/	104/ & 113/
Electrotypers ..	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
General Hands ..	82 0	80 0	76 0	77 0	77 0	77 0
Linotype Operators ..	118 0	116 0	112 0	113 0	113 0	113 0
Machinists	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Monotype Operators	118 0	116 0	112 0	113 0	113 0	113 0
Monotype Casting Machinists ..	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0
Readers	112 0	110 0	106 0	107 0	107 0	107 0
Stereotypers ..	109 0	107 0	103 0	104 0	104 0	104 0

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Brickmaking—						
Burners	112 0	91 0	92/ to 98/	[6]83 6	89/8 & 103/2	91 9
Carters—Two horses ..	100 6	89 0	96 0	81 0	96 8	86 0
Drawers	112 0	93/ & 95/6	86 6	[6]91 6	(*a*)	91 9
Labourers . ..	105 5	81 0	84 8	[6]80 6	89 8	89 0
Machinemen ..	102 9	90 0	86 6	[6]83/ & 88/6	89/8 & 92/8	89 0
Panmen	97/ & 112/	88/ & 92/	84 8	[6]86 6	99 8	89 0
Pitmen ..	109 3	96/ & 101/	..	[6]85 6	89 8	89 0
Setters	112 0	93/ & 95/6	86 6	[6]91 6	97 8	94 6
Wheelers	106 6	87 6	84/8 & 86/6	[6]80 6	92 8	89 0
Brushmaking—						
Bass Broom Drawers	104 6	95 0	101 6	[6]93 0	..	..
Finishers	104 6	95 0	101 6	[6]93 0	..	..
Machinists—Boring ..	104 6	95 0	101 6	[6]93 0	..	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	109 6	100 0	101 6	[6]97 0	..	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers	88 6	86 0	88 0	83 0	..	..
General Hands ..	85 0	80 0	84 0	77 0	82 2	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	92 6	86 0	84 0	83 0	92 2	..
Moulders	92 0	86 0	85 0	83 0	91 2	..
Stillmen	95 0	86 0	88 0	83 0	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Guillotine and other Cutters	92/ to 98/	90/ to 96/	86/ to 92/	87/ to 93/	87/ to 93/	87/ to 93/
Other Adults ..	82 0	80 0	76 0	77 0	77 0	77 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	109/ & 112/	107/ & 110/	108 0	104/ & 107/	106 2	104/ & 107/
Labourers	82 0	80 0	87 0	77 0	82 2	77 0
Painters	109 0	107 0	108 0	104 0	106 2	104 0
Smiths	113 0	111 0	108 0	108 0	106 2	108 0
Trimmers	109 0	107 0	108 0	104 0	106 2	104 0
Wheelmaking Machinists	106 0	104 0	108 0	101 0	106 2	101 0
Wheelwrights ..	106 0	104 0	108 0	101 0	106 2	101 0
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	86 0	85 0	88 6	77 6	..	..
Green Hands ..	86 0	85 0	85 6	77 6	..	..
Limepit Men ..	86 0	85 0	88/6 & 91/6	77 6	..	..
Machinists	89 0	88 0	85/6 to 94/6	77 6	..	..
Soakhole Men ..	89 0	88 0	91 6	77 6	..	..
Wool Sorters ..	99 0	98 0	91 6	77 6	..	..

(*a*) Piece-work rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gas Making and Supply—						
Coke Trimmers ..	98 6	89 0	84 0	..	85 2	..
Gas Fitters ..	125 0	122 0	119 6	110 0	119 0	94 0
Labourers	87 0	80 0	84 0	80 0	85 2	77 0
Mainlayers	101 9	122 0	95 0	107/ & 109/	97 2	94 0
Metermakers ..	107 0	109 0	..	110/ to 115/	106 2	94 0
Meter Testers ..	101 9	97 9	..	98 0	..	..
Service Layers ..	101 9	122 0	95 0	110 0	97 2	94 0
Stokers	105 0	94/ to 101/	109/ & 111/	91/ & 98/	91 2	95 0
Glassfounding—						
Furnacemen ..	94 0	92 0	90 0	86 6	99 0	..
Labourers	[6]85 0	83 0	84 0	77 6	90 0	..
Lehrmen	[12]88 6	[12]86 6	[12]87 6	81 0	90 0	..
Sorters	[6]87 6	85 6	86 6	80 0	92 6	..
Glass Working and Glazing						
Bevellers	109 10	103 0	107 0	99 0	103 2	98 0
Cutters and Glaziers	108 0	103 0	111 0	99 0	..	..
Lead Light Glaziers ..	108 0	103 0	..	99 0	106 2	..
Silverers	109 10	103 0	107 0	99 0	103 2	..
Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—						
Chainmakers ..	102/ & 104/6	98 0	96 0	[10]91 0	106 2	..
Engravers	104 6	103 0	96/ & 99/	[10]93 0	106 2	..
Mounters	102 0	98 0	96/ & 99/	[10]99 0	106 2	..
Setters	104 6	98 0	99 0	[10]99 0	106 2	..
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	108 0	[10]90/ to 100/	101 6	[10]99 0	107 2	..
Masonry—Marble and Stone—						
Carvers	[3]156 2	141 0	128 8	140 4	117 8	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	[3]129 6	99 0	128 8	97/ to 105/	117 8	..
Other	107 2	99 0	128 8	105 0	117 8	..
Masons	[3]129 6	112 0	128 8	114 8	117 8	107 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Guillotine Cutters ..	94 0	92 0	88 6	89 0	89 0	89 0
Machinists	98 0	96 0	92 0	93 0	93 0	93 0
Paper Making—						
Beatermen	107/ & 109/	90 0	..	..	..	..
Breakermen ..	85 0	73 0	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	86 6	72 0	..	..	..	..
Machinists	100/ & 112/	93 0	..	..	..	..
Ragboilermen ..	94 0	72 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	85 0	69 0	..	..	..	..
Potteries—General—						
Burners—Head ..	97 0	90 0	92 0	..	..	84 0
Hollow-ware Pressers	102 0	85 0	84 8	..	..	84 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	108 0	86 0	84 8	..	..	84 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	108 0	92 0	103 0	..	..	87 0
Potteries—Pipemaking—						
Burners—Head ..	102 0	90 0	98 0	[6]91 6	96 2	84 0
Drawers	97 6	84 0	84 8	[6]91 6	82 2	..
Moulders	102 6	80 0	84 8	..	96 2	78/ & 81/
Mould Makers ..	97 6	92 0	86 6	[6]91 6	94 3	..
Setters	99 6	88 0	84 8	..	88/3 & 95/7	82 6
Quarrying—						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	101 10	98 0	93 6	[6]91 6	90 11	84 4
Dressers	110 8	105 0	87 2	[6]85 6	..	81 7
Facemen	103 8	101 0	93 2	[6]85 6	..	76 0
Hammermen ..	99/6 & 102/	105 0	93 2	[6]85/6 & 88/6	90 11	81 7
Machine Feeders ..	105 6	98 0	88/7 & 92/8	[6]85 6	96 8	78 10
Quarrymen ..	110 8	..	96 10	[6]85 6	90 11	93 6

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	104/ & 109/	102/ & 107/	100/ & 104/	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	86 0	84 0	..	..	..	..
Dough Mixers ..	86 0	84 0	101 6	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	88/ & 95/	86/ & 93/	96 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands ..	88/ & 92/6	86/ & 90/6	96 6	..	..	..
Mill Hands ..	82/ & 95/	80/ & 93/	84 0	..	..	..
Spreaders	89/ & 95/	87/ & 93/	101 6	..	..	..
Surgical Packing, and other Makers ..	88/ & 97/	86/ & 95/	91/6 & 96/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	92 6	90 6	91 6	[6]89 9	..	..
Saddlery and Harness-making—						
Harness makers ..	102 0	102 0	102 0	[6]99 0	[6]101 5	102 0
Saddlers	102 0	102 0	102 0	[6]99 0	[6]101 5	102 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers	102 0	102 0	102 0	[6]86 0	..	102 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners	118 4	118 4	118 4	118 4	118 4	118 4
Dockers	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8
Painters	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8	114 8
Shipwrights ..	[6]134 10	[6]134 10	[6]134 10	[6]134 10	[6]134 10	[6]134 10
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	85 0	80 0	84 0	77 0	[6]81 1	[7]77 0
Mixers	85 0	86 0	84 0	83 0	[6]88 1	..
Soap Makers ..	107 0	90 6	84 0	87 6	[6]86 1	[7]102 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0
Curriers	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0
Japanners or Enamellers	89 6	89 6	89 6	89 6	89 6	89 6
Limemen and Yardmen	81 0	81 0	81 0	81 0	81 0	81 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0
Scouring	83 0	83 0	83 0	83 0	83 0	83 0
Splitting	97 0	97 0	97 0	97 0	97 0	97 0
Unhairing ..	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6
Rollers and Strikers ..	88 6	88 6	88 6	88 6	88 6	88 6
Tablemen	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6	86 6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	..	..	96/ & 102/
Machinists	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	..	..	96/ & 102/
Sewers—Hand ..	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	..	..	96/ & 102/
Tent Makers ..	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	96/ & 102/	..	[6]87 2	96/ & 102/

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Surface	126 6	124 8	[3]109 7	113 0	117 2	112 6
Sewer and Tunnel..	132 0	132 3	[3]109 7	113 0	117 2	112/ & 118/6
Carpenters	126 6	112 6	[3]109 7	113 8	116 2	112 6
Labouring (Builders)..	88 0	86 0	[3]92 11	83 0	95 1	83 0
Lathers	126 6	104 6	[3]109 7	..	..	83 0
Metal Cellers ..	116 6	..	[3]109 7	..	107 8	112 6
Masons	[3]129 6	112 0	[3]117 6	114 8	117 8	112 6
Painters, Paperhangers	115 4	112 9	[3]109 7	105 8	116 2	112 6
Signwriters ..	122 4	112 9	[3]109 7	105 8	116 2	112 6

(*a*) Mainly piece-work.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VII.—BUILDING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Building—*continued*—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Plasterers—						
Surface	126 6	121 0	[3]109 7	113 0	118 0	112 6
Sewer or Tunnel ..	132 0	133 10	[3]115/7 & 118/7	113 0	118/ to 124/	118/6 & 124/6
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	127 4	122 0	[3]109 7	113 8	118 1	100/ & 122/
Slaters	126 4	121 0	[3]109 7	..	..	..
Tilers	126 4	121 0	[3]109 7	113 0	103 5	..
Tuckpointers ..	126 6	110 0	[3]109 7	113 0	..	..
Water Supply and Sewerage—						
Concrete Workers ..	87/10 to 103/5	105 2	[3]95/ to 104/2	79/6 & 84/	88 2	..
Labourers	85/ to 96/1	82 8	[3]86 0	78 0	82 2	..
Miners—Sewer ..	110/7 to 130/	92/8 & 98 2	[3]111 6	81/ & 87/	91 2	..
Pipe-jointers and Setters	96/1 to 101/	94 8	[3]89/6 & 94/4	84/ & 85/6	91/2 & 100/2	..

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coal Mining—						
Blacksmiths ..	127 6	112 4	121/6 to 133 6	(*b*)	[5]112 2	127 6
Bracemen	[3]118 6	[3]95 10	[3]100 8	..	..	..
Carpenters	116/ to 131/6	112 4	117/6 & 133/6	..	..	115 6
Deputies	[3]148/ to 151/	[3]117 10	[3]116 3	..	..	[2]128 0
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	125/ to 144/	121 0	121/6 to 125/	..	[4]118/8 to 125/6	..
Other	115/ to 130/	118 3	116/ to 144/	..	..	..
Labourers—						
Surface	110 6	82 0	104/ to 124/	..	[4]88 9	105 6
Underground ..	[3]110 6	..	[3]90 to 105/5	..	[3]94 8	[3]110 0
Miners—						
Machine	(*a*)	(*a*)	[3]105/10 to 127/11	..	[3]119/ to 139/2	..
Manual—Dry Work	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	..	[3]119/ to 136/5	..
Platmen or Banksmen	[3]110/ to 117/6	[3]109 1	[3]112 9	..	[3]101 7	[3]110 0
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	[3]110/6 to 136/	[3]109 1	[3]102/1 to 107/	..	[3]123 7	[3]125 6
Wet Work ..	[3]110/6 to 136/	[3]117 4	[3]109 7	..	..	..
Shotfirers	[3]141/ to 144/	[3]122 5	[3]102/1 to 117/1	..	[3]123 7	..
Timbermen.. ..	[3]110/6 to 136/	[3]169 1	[3]102/1 to 108/9	..	[3]123 7	[3]110 0
Weighmen	[3]117 6	[3]105 5	..	..	..	[3]110 0
Wheelers	[3]100/ to 115/	[3]101 9	[3]92/11 & 99/2	..	[3]103/8 & 111/8	[3]110 0
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—					(*d*)	
Battery Feeders ..	90 0	[6]74 to 82/	94/4 to 99/10	(*c*)	112 6	73 0
Bracemen	92 0	78/ to 87/	99/10 to 105/4	..	121 6	78 0

(*a*) Piece-work rates. (*b*) Coal not mined. (*c*) Very little gold is produced and difficulty is experienced in obtaining reliable information. (*d*) Exclude District Allowances.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—*contd.*						
Engine Drivers—						
Stationary ..	97/6 to 103/6	[6]89 to 105/	98/ to 110/	..	126/6 to 133/6	80/ to 99/
Winding and Loco.	109/ to 115/	[6]92 to 108/	108/ to 130/	..	129/6 to 165/6	88/ to 102/
Firemen	93/ to 97/6	[6]83/ to 89/	93/ to 110/10	..	118/6 to 124/6	78 0
Labourers	88 0	76/ & 80/	94/4 to 99/10	..	112 6	73 0
Miners—						
Machine	99/6 to 102/6	78/ to 103/	108/ to 113/6	..	125/6 to 132/6	85/ & 94/
Manual—						
Dry Work ..	99/6 to 101/6	82/ to 99/	99/10 to 105/4	..	120/6 to 127/6	82/ to 88/
Wet Work ..	99/6 to 102/6	88/ to 105/	108/ to 114/6	..	129/6 to 136/6	88/ to 94/
Platmen	92 0	78/ & 90/	99/10 to 105/4	..	121 6	78 0
Shaft Sinkers—						
Dry Work ..	101 6	88/ to 103/	99/10 to 114/6	..	120/6 to 127/6	88 0
Wet Work ..	101 6	94/ to 106/	108/ to 114/6	..	129/6 to 136/6	110 0
Timbermen	101/ & 105/6	83/6 & 99/6	108/ to 111/6	.. ..	127/6 & 132/6	85/ to 90/

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Railways—						
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class	127 0	127 0	122 9	124 0	128 2	123 0
2nd Class ..	121 0	121 0	117 3	118 0	120 2	116 0
3rd Class	115 0	115 0	110 10	112 0	112 2	111 0
4th Class	109 0	109 0	104 5	106 0	109 2	105 0
5th Class	103 0	103 0	104 5	100 0	109 2	99 0
Firemen—						
1st Class	100 0	97 0	98 0	94 0	103 2	93 0
2nd Class ..	97 0	88/ & 91/	92 6	88 0	97 2	87 0
3rd Class	91 0	85 0	92 6	82/ & 85/	92 2	81/ & 84/
Guards—						
1st Class	95/ to 111/6	107/6 & 110/6	114 6	104/6 to 107/6	106 2	101 0
2nd Class ..	92/ to 107/6	103/ & 106/	109 0	100/ to 103/	103 2	95 0
3rd Class	86/ to 95/	88/ to 97/	98 11	82/ & 84/	100 2	87 0
Porters	83/ to 104/	79/ to 97/	85/2 & 88/10	96/ & 100/6	82 2	74 0
Shunters—						
1st Class	92/ to 128/	106/ to 112/	114 6	98/6 & 101/6	100 2	89/ to 99/
2nd Class	89/ to 122/	101/6 to 105/6	107 2	91/ & 94/	97 2	..
3rd Class	86/ to 107/	94/ to 97/	103 6	..	91 2	..
Ordinary	86 0	85/ to 91/	95 3	..	91 2	86 0
Signalmen—						
Special	..	115 0	109/ & 117/3	98/6 to 107/6	109 2	..
1st Class	116 0	106 0	107 2	95 6	100 2	86 0
2nd Class ..	110 0	100 0	102 7	92 6	94 2	83 0
3rd Class	105 0	95 6	96 2	86 6	88 2	..
4th Class	89/ to 101/	91 0	91 7	83 6	85 2	..

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tramways (Electric and Cable)—						
Car Washers or Cleaners	82 0	88 0	91 7	[6]80/ & 83/	..	[6]79 0
Conductors—						
1st Year	88 0	88 0	87 0	[6]82/ & 84/	84 2	[6]77 6
2nd Year ..	91 0	91 0	87/ & 92/	[6]84 0	94 2	[6]80 6
3rd Year ..	94 0	94 0	92/ & 102/	[6]88/ to 93/	..	[6]83 0
Horse Drivers ..	88 0	89/ to 96/	91 0	..	..	..
Labourers	82 0	82 0	84 0	[6]78 0	82 2	[6]79 0
Maintenance Men ..	85/ to 90/	91 0	91 7	[6]83/ & 84/	88 2	[6]82 0
Motormen or Grip-men—						
1st Year ..	100 0	88 0	87 0	[6]84 0	94 2	[6]79 0
2nd Year ..	100 0	91 0	87/ & 92/	[6]87 0	94 2	[6]82 6
3rd Year ..	100 0	94 0	92/ & 102/	[6]90/ & 94/6	94 2	[6]85 0
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading	112 0	108 0	123 1	[6]91/ & 99/6	100 2	[6]96 0
Other	91/ to 118/	102 0	108 1	[6]84/ & 92/6	..	[6]91 0
Pitmen	96 0	100 0	..	[6]84/ to 90/	94 2	..
Signalmen	103/6 to 109/6	97 0	98/ & 102/	[6]90/ & 99/6	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	82 0	88 0	87 0	[6]81/ & 84/	97 2	[6]79 0

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Carrying—Merchandise—						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	93 0	84 0	91 0	81 0	[6]91 8	81 0
Two Horses ..	98 0	89 0	96 0	86 0	[6]96 8	86 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	97 0	84 0	91 0	81 0	90 2	81 0
Two Horses ..	103 6	89 0	96 0	86 0	95 2	86 0
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	93 0	90 0	98 0	87 0	[6]99 8	87 0
Two Horses ..	98 0	95 0	103 0	92 0	[6]104 8	92 0
Sanitary Carters ..	101/ & 106/	87/ to 97/	92 0	84/ & 94/	100 2	84/ to 94/
Stable Hands ..	92/6 & 97/6	82 0	84 0	79 0	[6]90 8	79 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	95/ to 105/	89/ to 93/	93/ to 101/	86/ to 90/	[6]96/8 to 100/8	86/ to 90/
3 tons or over ..	109/ to 113/	96 0	104/ to 111/	93 0	[6]104 8	93 0
Lift Attendants—						
Goods	88 0	87 6	90/ & 92/	..	[6]92 6	..
Passenger	88 0	87 6	84/ & 86/	..	[6]90 0	..

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Waterside Working—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Wharf Labourers per hour *a*	2 10	2 10	2 10 to 3 6	2 10	2 10	2 10
Passenger Vessels—Interstate *b*—						
Bakers per month			309/ to 389/			
Barmen ,,			299/*d*			
Butchers ,,			329/ to 369/*c*			
Cooks—						
Chief ,,			439/ to 469/*c*			
Second ,,			359/*c*			
Third ,,			299/*c*			
Ships ,,			349/*c*			
Pantrymen ,,			239/ to 339/*c*			
Scullerymen ,,			279/*c*			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon ,,			389/*d*			
Second ,,			379/*d*			
Second Saloon ,,			349/*d*			
Fore Cabin ,,			339/*d*			
Bedroom and Other ,,			289/ to 299/*d*			
All Vessels—Interstate *b h*—						
A.B. Seamen per month			331/6			
Boatswains ,,			351/6			
Donkeymen ,,			391/6			
Firemen ,,			371/6			
Greasers ,,			371/6			
Lamp Trimmers ,,			351/6			
Fuel Trimmers ,,			331/6			
Marine Engineers *b e g*—	*Vessels (Steam). Under 100 N.H.P.*			*Vessels (Steam). 100 N.H.P. and over.*		
Chief per month	637/6 to 692/6			722/6 to 1102/6		
Second ,,	532/6			532/6 to 722/6		
Third ,,	477/6			477/6 to 602/6		
Fourth ,,	..			418/ to 542/6		
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th ,,	..			408/		
	Seagoing Passenger Vessels.			Seagoing Cargo Vessels.		
Merchant Service *b f g*—	*125 tons or under.*	*Over 10,000 tons.*		*60 tons or under.*	*Over 10,000 tons.*	
Masters per month	688/	1,762/6		560/	1,322/6	
Officers—						
Chief ,,	508/	722/6		448/	642/6	
Second ,,	448/	642/6		408/	582/6	
Third ,,	..	552/6		..	512/6	
Fourth and Fifth ,,	..	408/		..	408/	

a Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 10 hours per day when at sea, 9 per day when in intermediate ports, not more than 8 per day when in terminal ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g Marine Engineers*—Not more than 8 hours per day. *Masters and Officers*—Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours. *h* Not more than 8 hours per day.

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W Aust.	Tasmania.
Farming *c*—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
General Hands *a b* ..	25/ to 30/	15/ to 25/	15/ to 30/	15/ to 25/	25/ to 40/	30/ to 42/
Harvesters *a b* ..	30/ to 55/	30/ to 40/	30/ to 60/	30/ to 50/	35/ to 50/	42/ to 60/
Milkers *a b*	25/ to 35/	20/ to 25/	15/ to 20/	15/ to 25/	25/ to 40/	25/ to 30/
Ploughmen *a b* ..	27/6 to 32/6	20/ to 25/	20/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	35/ to 50/	31/ to 37/
Chaffcutting—						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	94/6 & 97/6	94 6	..	..	85/3 to 115/9	£3 9 0
Feeders (Stationary mill)	94/6 & 97/6	88 6	..	..	85/3 to 115/9	£3 9 0

For footnotes, see next page.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gardening—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gardeners	97 6	81/7 to 87/1	93 8	[6]81/ & 84/	[6]88 2	[6]80 0
Labourers	82 0	81 7	84 0	[6]78 0	[6]82 2	[6]77 0
Nurserymen ..	97 6	87/6 & 98/	[6]93 8	[6]84/ & 90/	[6]94 2	[6]80 0
Labourers	82 6	81 0	[6]84 0	[6]78 0	[6]82 2	[6]77 0
Pastoral Workers *d*—						
Cooks *b*	114 0	114 0	147/8 & 157/8	114 0	106 0	114 0
Shearers .. per 100	35 0	35 0	38 0	35 0	33 0	..
Shed Hands *b* ..	94 0	94 0	85 6	94 0	95 0	94 0
Wool Pressers *b* ..	98 0	98 0	104 6	98 0	104 6	98 0
Rural Workers—						
Fruit Harvesters ..	79 0	79 0	84 0	59/2 to 62/4	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. *c* Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. *d* Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Clubs, Hotels, and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Chefs	104/6 to 107/	96/6 to 126/	111/ & 116/	[6]103/ to 128/	[6]106 6	[6]72/5 to 127/11
Cooks—Second ..	94/ to 147/	90/6 to 108/6	101 0	[6]88/ to 98/	[6]91 1	[6]57/7 to 102/
Cooks—Third ..	91/ to 117/	90 6	101 0	[6]88 0	[6]84 4	[6]57/7 to 82/4
Kitchenmen ..	84 0	84 6	88 6	[6]78 0	[6]82 2	[6]64 2
Hairdressing—						
Hairdressers ..	103 0	[6]102 0	99 0	[6]99 0	[6]102 2	[6]80/ to 105/
Hotels—						
Barmen	91 6	89 0	90 0	[6]95 0	[6]106 2	[6]88 0
Billiard Markers ..	82 0	84 6	86 0	[6]78 0	[6]83 8	[6]64 0
Handymen ..	82 0	84 6	86 0	[6]78 0	[6]82 2	[6]52/7 & 58/8
Lift Attendants ..	82 0	86 6	86 0	[6]82 9	[6]84 8	[6]55/11 & 64/2
Porters—Day Work ..	82 0	84 6	86 0	[6]80 6	[6]82 2	[6]55 11
Porters—Night Work	84 0	84 6	86 0	[6]80 6	[6]84 4	64 2
Waiters—Head ..	91 0	90 0	86 0	[6]88/ & 91/	..	[6]82/4 & 95/6
Waiters— Other ..	84 0	84 6	86 0	[6]83 6	[6]83 4	[6]63/1 to 75/8
Restaurants—						
Pantrymen ..	82/6 & 84/6	[6]77 0	88 6	[6]80 0	[6]82 2	[6]64 2
Waiters	82/ & 87/	[6]77 0	88 6	[6]83/6 & 84/6	[6]82 2	[6]63/1 to 95/8

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Factory Engine Driving—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—						
1st Class ..	[6]95/6 to 98/6	[6]93/6 & 96/6	111 0	[6]90/6 & 93/6	[6]95/8 & 98/8	[6]89/ to 92/
2nd Class ..	[6]92/6 to 95/6	[6]90/6 & 93/6	103 0	[6]87/6 & 90/6	[6]92/8 & 95/8	[6]86/ to 88/
3rd Class ..	[6]89/6 & 94/6	[6]90/6 & 93/6	95 0	[6]87/6 & 90/6	[6]92/8 & 95/8	[6]86/ to 88/
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	[6]92 6	[6]87/6 to 90/6	93 0	84/6 to 87/6	[6]91 2	[6]83 0
2nd Class ..	[6]88/ to 89/6	[6]86/ & 87/	..	[6]83/ & 84/	[6]88 2	[6]80/ & 82/
Greasers	[6]86 0	[6]84 0	93 0	[6]81 0	[6]91 2	[6]80 0
Trimmers	[6]86 0	[6]84 0	89 0	[6]81 0	[6]88 2	[6]78 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Municipal—						
Labourers	95 6	82 0	86 0	78 0	82 2	79 0
Street Sweepers ..	95 6	87 0	86 0	78 0	82 2	79 0
Shop and Other Assistants						
Boot Salesmen ..	93 6	[8]100 0	99 0	[6]90 0	[6]98 11	[6]80/ to 95/
Chemists' Assistants ..	110 0	[8]104 6	110 6	[6]101/ & 111/	[6]98 11	100 0
Clerks	97/ & 98/6	[4] & [8] 93/	99 0	[6]86 6	[6]89/11 to 101/6	99 0
Drapery Salesmen ..	95 6	[8]101 0	99 0	[6]92 6	[6]98 11	[8]85/ to 100/
Furniture Salesmen ..	98 6	[8]105 0	99 0	[6]89 6	[6]98 11	107 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	97 0	[8]91 0	99 0	[6]89 0	[6]98 11	[11]92 6
Hardware Salesmen ..	89 6	[8]97 6	99 0	[6]89 6	[6]98 11	[6]102 0
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	97 0	[8]84 6	99 0	[6]90 0	[6]98 11	[6]90 0
Tobacconists' Assts. ..	97 0	[6]91/6 & 101/6	99 0	[6]88 0	[6]98 11	[6]79 3
Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &c.—						
Night Watchmen ..	86/ & 89/6	[12]92/4 & 104/10	87 0	[6]84 6	[6]101/8 & 104/3	[6]81 0
Office Cleaners ..	88/6 to 98/6	[8]86 0	84/ & 89/	[6]78 0	[6]95 3	[6]77 0
Packers—General ..	95/6 & 98/6	86 0	87 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 11	[6]81/ & 83/6
Storemen—General ..	90/ & 93/	86 0	87 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 11	[6]81/ to 83/6
Wholesale Grocery—						
Packers	94 6	85 0	89 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 11	[6]81 0
Storemen	93 0	86 6	89 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 1	[6]81 0
Wholesale Hardware—						
Packers	94/ & 96/	89 0	89 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 11	[6]52/ to 87/
Storemen	90/ to 94/	89 0	89 0	[6]81 0	[6]98 11	[6]52/ to 87/

Section V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1939.

(*See Explanatory Note at top of page* 153.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Biscuit Making—						
Adult Females ..	46 6	42 0	45 0	36 6	46 9	40 6
Confectionery—						
Adult Females ..	47 0	47 0	45 0	38 6	40/5 to 56/4	[a]46 0
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Fillers	52 6	52 6	50 6	52 6	44 4	52 6
Other Adults ..	46 6	46 6	50 6	46 6	44 4	46 6
Tea Packing—						
Head Women ..	44 9	54 9	46/6 to 56/	..	44 10	..
Other Adults ..	44 9	48 0	45 0	41 6	..	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)—						
Ringers	45 6	48 0	..	..	43 4	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	60 0	55 6	..	..	43 4	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaking—						
Machinists — Wax Thread	63 6	63 6	63 6	63 6	..	63 6
Other Adults ..	51/6 to 56/	51/6 to 56/	51/6 to 56/	51/6 to 56/	50 3	51/6 to 56/
Dressmaking—						
Adult Females ..	45/3 to 65/9	45/3 to 65/9	45/3 to 65/9	45/3 to 65/9	49/2 & 50/10	45/3 to 65/9
Dyers and Cleaners—						
Adult Females ..	44/6 to 51/	44/6 to 51/	44/6 to 51/	44/6 to 51/	58 10	44/6 to 51/
Hat Making (Straw)—						
Finishers & Machinists	48 3	48 3	48 3	48 3	..	48 3
Millinery—						
Adult Females ..	45/3 to 48/3	45/3 to 48/3	45/3 to 48/3	45/3 to 48/3	47 7	45/3 to 48/3
Shirt Making—						
Adult Females ..	45/3 to 60/9	45/3 to 60/9	45/3 to 60/9	45/3 to 60/9	47/7 & 54/1	45/3 to 60/9
Tailoring (Order)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	55 9	55 9	55 9	55 9	57 3	55 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	53/1 to 55/3	50 3
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	55 9	55 9	55 9	55 9	62/3 to 63/4	55 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	53/1 to 55/3	50 3
Tailoring (Ready-made)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	53 3	53 3	53 3	53 3	50 1	53 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	48 3	48 3	48 3	48 3	47 7	48 3
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	53 3	53 3	53 3	53 3	50 1	53 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	48 3	48 3	48 3	48 3	47 7	48 3
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—						
Comb Minders ..	48 6	44 0	44 0	44 0	44 0	44 0
Drawers and Menders	51/6 & 57/6	44/ to 50/	47/ to 53/	44/ to 50/	44/ to 50/	44/ to 50/
Warpers	52/6 & 57/6	46 0	48/ to 53/	46 0	46 0	46 0
Weavers—Loom ..	57 6	47 0	53 0	47 0	47 0	47 0
Other Adults ..	48 6	44 0	44 0	44 0	44 4	44 0
Underclothing—						
Adult Females ..	45/3 to 58/9	45/3 to 58/9	45/3 to 58/9	45/3 to 58/9	49/2 & 50/10	45/3 to 58/9

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bedding and Furniture—						
Bedding Machinists ..	49 0	52 6	50 11	44 6	62 4	44 6
Picture Frame Workers	54 0	52 6	..	48 6	59 4	48 6
Bookbinding—						
Folders and Sewers ..	52/6 & 53/6	51/6 & 52/6	49/– & 50/–	49/6 & 50/6	49/6 & 50/6	49/6 & 50/6
Brush Making—						
Adult Females ..	53 0	44 0	47 0	42 0	..	..
Candle and Soap Making—						
Adult Females ..	48 0	42 0	46 0	38 3	..	[6]26 7
Cardboard Box Making—						
Box Makers ..	48/6 to 55/6	47/6 to 54/6	45/ to 52/–	45/6 to 52/6	45/6 to 52/6	45/6 to 52/6
Other Adults ..	44/6 to 52/6	43/6 to 51/6	41/– to 49/–	41/6 to 49/6	41/6 to 49/6	41/6 to 49/6
Jewellery—						
Chainmakers ..	52/6 & 57/6	98 0	67 0	..	56 11	..
Gilders	52 6	90 0	57 0	57 3	56 11	..
Polishers	52 6	98 0	57 0	57 3	56 11	..
Scratch Brushers ..	52 6	45 6	57 0	57 3	56 11	..
Leather Goods—						
Adult Females ..	51 6	51 6	51 6	41/6 to 48/6	51 8	51 6
Paper Making—						
Adult Females ..	44 0	38 1	..	..	..	..
Paper Bag Making—						
Adult Females ..	44/6 to 50/6	43/6 to 49/6	41/– to 47/–	41/6 to 47/6	41/6 to 47/6	41/6 to 47/6
Potteries—						
Adult Females ..	44 0	43 9	50 0	..	..	..
Printing—						
Jobbing Office Assistants	52 6	51 6	49 0	49 6	49 6	49 6
Lithographic Feeders	51 6	50 6	48 0	48 6	48 6	48 6
Rubber Working—						
Adult Females ..	43 6	43 0	51 0	..	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Making						
Machinists ..	51 6	51 6	51 6	47 6	46 3	51 6

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Hotels—						
Barmaids	65 6	68 9	80 0	55 0	102 3	[6]62 0
Housemaids ..	53 0	55 9	49 6	47 0	58 5	[6]49 0
Laundresses ..	58 6	58 9	55 6	51 0	58 5	[6]52 0
Waitresses—Head ..	59 0	58 9	49 6	52 0	..	[6]52 0
,, Other ..	54 0	54 9	49 6	47 0	58 5	[6]48 0
Laundries—						
General Hands ..	46 6	45 0	46 0	41 1	52 4	[6]40 0
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	48 6	53 9	46 0	45 0	56 4	[6]40/ & 45/
Sorters	48 6	45 0	46 0	45 0	52 4	[6]40 0
Starchers	45 6	50 6	46 0	41 0	52 4	[6]40 0
Washers	45 6	56/ & 88/6	46 0	41 0	63 1	[6]50 0
Office Cleaning—						
Adult Females ..	52/6 & 54/9	77 5	60/ to 64/	44 0	56 2	..
Restaurants—						
Pantry Maids ..	51 6	48 6	49 6	42 0	49 8	[6]49 4
Waitresses ..	51/6 & 54/6	48 6	49 6	43/6 & 51/	47 9	[6]48/2 & 54/2

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Clerks, &c.—						
Cashiers	51 3	57 3	75 0	52 0	(*a*)60 7	[8]54 0
Clerical Assistants ..	51 3	57 3	75 0	52 0	..	[8]54 0
Saleswomen—						
Boot	64 0	40/ to 57/6	60 6	43 6	54/11 & 60/2	[8]45 0
Drapery	64 0	52 0	60 6	87 9	54/11 & 63/10	[8]45 0
Fruit and Confectionery	54 0	42 6	60 6	43 6	54 11	[6]50 0
Newsagent and Bookstall	64 0	35/ to 45/	60 6	43 6	54 11	[6]45 0
Tobacconists ..	64 0	56/6 to 76/6	60 6	50 6	54 11	[6]49 6

(*a*) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.

Section VI.

Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour : Australia and Other Countries.

Industry and Occupation.	Australia (Sydney).				Great Britain and Northern Ireland (London).				New Zealand (Auckland).				Canada (Montreal).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		Sept., 1914.		31st Dec., 1939	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		$		$	
Furniture—																
Cabinet Makers	60 0	48	108 0	44	39 5	46½ to 54	85 4	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	16.80 to 17.20	40 to 44
Upholsterers	60 0	48	108 0	44	38 8	46½ to 54	85 4	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	21.00 to 29.40	40 to 44
French Polishers	60 0	48	108 0	44	37 5	46½ to 54	85 4	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	21.00 to 29.40	40 to 44
Sawmilling—																
Machinists, Planing	63 0	48	92 0 and 101 0	44	..	..	..	..	57 0	47	103 4	40	14.58	55	21.62	47 to 55
,, Shaping	69 0	48	106 0	44	..	..	..	..	45 0	47	103 4	40	16.56	55		
Sawyers, Band or Jig	68 0	48	96 0 to 109 0	44	..	..	..	..	48 0	47	96 8	40	16.56	55	19.27	47 to 54
,, Circular	54 0 to 60 0	48	96 0 to 103 0	44	..	..	..	..	54 0	47	112 6	40	14.99	55	16.92	47
Engineering, and Metal Working—																
Fitters and Turners	70 0	48	109 0 and 112 0	44	38 11	53 to 54	72 11	47	64 7	47	110 0	40	..	..	23.25 to 40.38	40 to 55

Patternmakers	74	0	48	121	0	44	42	1	53 to 54	72	11	47	69	0	49	110	0	40	21.38	55	26.40 to 33.00	44
Moulders (Iron)	68	0 and 72 0	48	91	0 to 112 0	44	41	8	53 to 54	72	11	47	64	7½	47	110	0	40	18.95	60	18.60 to 33.00	44
Tinsmiths	60	0	48	102	6	44	..		..	..		..	62	8	47	110	0	40	14.30	54	23.32	44
Milling (Flour)—																						
Millers (shift)	63	0 and 70 0	48	98	0 to 108 6	44	..		..	74	0 and 76 0	42	48	0	48	99	4 (a)	40	18.95	60	28.56	48 to 66
Packermen	51	0	48	86	0	44	..		..	..		..	48	0	48	95	4	40	14.58	60	21.50	40 to 60
Bootmakers	60	0	48	105	0	44	30	0	52½	54	3 to 61 0	45	52	6	45	102	6	40	22.60	55	..	..
Tailoring (Ready-made)—																						
Cutters	65	0	48	103	0	44	..		..	..		..	52	0 to 60 0	45	102	6	40	17.50 to 19.44	49	26.60	44 to 48
Pressers (Coat)	60	0	48	100	0	44	..		..	..		..	55	0	45	92	6	40	14.58 to 19.44	49	19.17	44 to 48
Trimmers	65	0	48	100	0	44	..		..	..		..	52	0 to 60 0	45	92	6	40	14.58	49	19.17	44 to 48
Bookbinding—																						
Bookbinders	65	0	48	109	0	44	33	11	50 to 51	80	0	45	65	0	48	107	6	40	17.50	48	27.00 to 30.00	44 to 48
Paper Rulers	65	0 to 77 6	48	109	0	44	33	11	50 to 51	80	0	45	65	0	48	107	6	40	19.44	48	25.00 to 30.00	44 to 48
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—																						
Compositors (Day work)	88	0	48	131	0	44	35	8	50	89	0	45	65	0	48	107	6	40	21.30	48	36.00 to 45.00	44 to 45
Readers (Day work)	80	0	48	139	6	44	..		..	..		..	..		..	117	6	40	17.50	48	37.00 to 45 50	44 to 48
Printing (Jobbing Offices)—																						
Compositors	65	0	48	109 and 118	0	44	35	8	50 to 51	89	0	45	65	0	48	107	6	40	17.98	48	25.00 to 35.00	44 to 48
Linotype Operators	80	0	48	118	0	44	..		..	..		..	74	0	48	115	0	40	..	..	25.00 to 35.00	44 to 48
Building—																						
Bricklayers	78	0	48	126	6	44	40	7	49¼	78	0	44	70	6	47	115	0	40	28.75	54	44.00	44
Carpenters	72	0	48	126	6	44	39	11	49¼	78	0	44	64	7½	47	112	6	40	23.61	54	30.80	44
Labourers—Carpenters	60	6	44	88	0	44	27	0	49¼	60	6	44	51	4	47	93	4	40	15.63	54	13.80 to 18.40	44 to 48
Concrete Workers	60	6	44	88	0	44	27	0	49¼	60	6	44	54	10	47	93	4	40	15.63	54		
Earth Excavators	60	6	44	88	0	44	27	0	49¼	60	6	44	54	10	47	93	4	40	15.63	54		

(a) Kilnmen.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).				CANADA (MONTREAL).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1939.		Sept., 1914.		1st Oct., 1939.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
Building—*contd.*	*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		$		$	
Painters	64 0	48	115 4	44	36 3	49½	74 4	44	60 6	44	110 0	40	21.00	54	29.04	44
Paperhangers	64 0	48	115 4	44	36 3	49½	78 0	44	60 6	44	110 0	40	21.00	54	29.04	44
Plasterers	78 0	48	126 6	44	40 0	49½	78 0	44	66 0	44	115 0	40	25.65	48	35.20	44
Plumbers	72 0	48	127 4	44	39 8	49½	78 0	44	62 4 to 66 0	44	110 0	40	22.31	54	33.00	44
Tramways—																
Conductors—																
1st year	48 0	48	88 0	44	27 5	(*a*)	79 0 to 88 0	48	42 0 to 48 0	48	95 10 and 100 0	40	12.84	60	27.00	54
2nd year	51 0	48	91 0										12.84	60	29.70	54
3rd year	54 0	48	94 0										13.41	60	32.40	54
Motormen—																
1st year	54 0	48	100 0	44	30 11	(*a*)	79 0 to 88 0	48	48 0 to 54 0	48	100 0 and 103 4	40	12.84	60	27.00	54
2nd year	57 0	48	100 0										12.84	60	29.70	54
3rd year	60 0	48	100 0										13.41	60	32.40	54
rrying (Merchandise)—																
Carters (1 horse)	50 0	56½	93 0	44	25 7	(*a*)	60 0 and 61 0	48	48 0	48	93 0	44	20.41	54	15.00 to 18.00	48 to 60
Municipal—Labourers	57 0	48	95 6	44	26 9	(*a*)	66 0	47	50 11 to 58 9	47	90 0	40	11.83	54	16.80	48

(*a*) Not available.

Section VII.

COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(* *Base of Each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities*, 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers				Nominal Wages Adult Males.	Real Wages. (*a*)	Percentage of Unemployment among Trade Unionists.
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	All Items of Household Expenditure.			
Year—							
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000	*b* 1,000	1,000	*b* 1,000	4.7
1914	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921	1,902	1,410	1.717	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929	1.866	1,754	1,824	1,713	1.972	1,151	11.1
1931	1,477	1,473	1,475	1,448	1,752	1,210	27.4
1935	1,442	1,372	1,416	1,380	1,612	1,169	16.5
1936	1,475	1,437	1,461	1,409	1,638	1,162	12.2
1937	1,521	1,488	1,510	1,448	1,707	1,178	9.3
1938	1,584	1,540	1,568	1,488	1,799	1,211	8.7
1939	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,526	1.846	1,211	9.7
1940	1,679	1,590	1,644	1,588	1,889	1,190	8.0
Quarter—							
1930.							
March	1,751	1,782	1,763	1,670	1,973	1,181	14.6
June	1,734	1,744	1,738	1,653	1,956	1,183	18.5
September	1,673	1,692	1,680	1,607	1,939	1,207	20.5
December	1,568	1,625	1,590	1,542	1,887	1,224	23.4
1931.							
March	1,538	1,560	1,546	1,500	1,814	1,209	25.8
June	1,496	1,501	1,498	1,464	1,764	1,205	27.6
September	1,435	1,447	1,439	1,423	1,735	1,219	28.3
December	1,439	1,382	1,418	1,406	1,694	1,205	28.0
1932.							
March	1,465	1,358	1,425	1,403	1,680	1,197	28.3
June	1,448	1,345	1,409	1,389	1,672	1,204	30.0
September	1,416	1,327	1,382	1,370	1,608	1,174	29.6
December	1,369	1,314	1,348	1,346	1,597	1,186	28.1
1933.							
March	1,317	1,318	1,318	1,327	1,585	1,194	26.5
June	1,337	1,314	1,329	1,334	1,595	1,196	25.7
September	1,359	1,311	1,341	1,340	1,587	1,184	25.1
December	1,355	1,311	1,339	1,337	1,570	1,174	23.0
1934.							
March	1,371	1,315	1,350	1,344	1,572	1,170	21.9
June	1,404	1,319	1,372	1,358	1,592	1,172	20.9
September	1,401	1,331	1,375	1,357	1,596	1,176	20.4
December	1,422	1,332	1,388	1,361	1,599	1,175	18.8
1935.							
March	1,420	1,356	1,396	1,368	1,607	1,175	18.6
June	1,425	1,363	1,402	1,371	1,609	1,174	17.8
September	1,461	1,379	1,430	1,389	1,613	1,161	15.9
December	1,460	1,390	1,434	1,391	1,620	1,165	13.7
1936.							
March	1,445	1,413	1,433	1,391	1,623	1,167	13.4
June	1,455	1,425	1,444	1,397	1,629	1,166	12.8
September	1,489	1,449	1,474	1,420	1,641	1,156	12.0
December	1,510	1,461	1,491	1,430	1,659	1,160	10.7
1937.							
March	1,510	1,470	1,495	1,433	1,662	1,160	9.9
June	1,507	1,483	1,498	1,441	1,680	1,166	9.7
September	1,526	1,499	1,516	1,454	1,721	1,184	9.3
December	1,540	1,510	1,529	1,465	1,763	1,203	8.2
1938.							
March	1,540	1,521	1,534	1,467	1,778	1,212	8.0
June	1,572	1,534	1,558	1,482	1,787	1,206	8.6
September	1,616	1,547	1,589	1,500	1,806	1,204	9.2
December	1,608	1,559	1,589	1,501	1,823	1,215	8.9
1939.							
March	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,524	1,826	1,198	9.6
June	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,522	1,847	1,214	9.5
September	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
December	1,657	1,584	1,628	1.536	1,858	1,210	9.3
1940.							
March	1,640	1,587	1,620	1,542	1,864	1,209	7.9
June	1,688	1,589	1,649	1,583	1,875	1.184	10.5
September	1,676	1,591	1,642	1,590	1,903	1,197	7.4
December	1,710	1,593	1,663	1,635	1,912	1,169	6.2

(*a*) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" series index of retail prices.
(*b*) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the Food and Rent of All Houses ("A" Series) Index.
*The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 *in each group or combination* is made equal to 1,000

Section VIII.
Department of Labour and National Service.

This new Department was created by the Commonwealth Government on 28th October, 1940, in lieu of the existing Department of Industry. The first Minister in charge was the Hon. H. E. Holt, M.P., with Dr. Roland Wilson (formerly Commonwealth Statistician) as Secretary. The administrative head-quarters and the Central Secretariat of the Department are located in Canberra.

The principal functions of the new Department were explained by the Minister to the House of Representatives on 10th December, as relating to matters of general labour policy, man-power priorities, investigations of labour supply and demand, the effective placement of labour, technical training, industrial relations and welfare, research into man-power questions, and planning for post war rehabilitation and development.

The Department consists of a Central Secretariat and seven divisions, viz. :—(i) Employment ; (ii) Industrial Relations ; (iii) Industrial Training ; (iv) Industrial Welfare ; (v) Record and Analysis ; (vi) National Service ; and (vii) Reconstruction. The chief activities of these divisions are as follows :—

(i) *Employment Division.*—This Division is concerned chiefly with investigation of the supply of labour available for urgent national work, with investigation of the demand for labour, both from munition plants and civil industry, and with the placement of unemployed, under-employed, or mis-employed labour in jobs which will contribute both to the war effort and to the well-being of the civil population. Its machinery is being so devised as to fit it to assist in the problem of re-employment at the end of the war.

(ii) *Industrial Relations Division.*—This division is concerned chiefly with wages and working conditions in the munitions and other industries of national importance, and, as its name implies, with the maintenance of industrial peace. It is also responsible for the administration of schemes for the dilution of labour. Its work is facilitated by the advice and assistance given by the Trade Union Advisory Panel.

(iii) *Industrial Training Division.*—This division is responsbile for the special technical training of members of the fighting services and the new recruits to the munitions industry. The division will also be responsible for the training and re-training of members of the fighting services who return to Australia after the war.

(iv) *Industrial Welfare Division.*—This division will be developed along the lines which are at present not adequately covered by State activities. It has assumed a general responsibility for the oversight of working conditions in factories and other establishments connected with the war effort. There is scope for much useful work in the adoption of a general policy for the improvement of health, welfare and recreational activities of the workers. The problem of providing adequate housing accommodation for munition workers in rapidly developing industrial areas is also dealt with by this division. The division works in close co-operation with the Munitions Health Advisory Committee, and with the Controller of Welfare of the Ministry of Munitions, who is responsible for the carrying out of welfare work in Government munition factories. Some consideration is being given to the possibility of establishing a Bureau of Home Economics, rather similar in nature to the Bureau functioning under that name in the United States of America.

SECTION VIII.—*continued.*

(v) *Record and Analysis Division.*—The chief function of this division is the administration of the National Register, which was taken over from the Department of Defence Co-ordination, and the analysis of statistics derived therefrom for the general planning activities of the Department. It will also be responsible for any systems of central registration required by other Divisions in the course of their work, and for assembling and analysing employment and unemployment statistics supplied by other Government agencies.

(vi) *National Service Division.*—This division will be concerned chiefly with the encouragement and co-ordination of the voluntary effort which has already been organized in special directions by existing voluntary agencies.

(vii) *Reconstruction Division.*—The function of this division is to co-ordinate the preparation of plans for the reconstruction of the economy after the war, and concurrently for the re-absorption into civil life of soldiers, sailors, airmen and workers in war and allied industries. Reconstruction interests the Commonwealth Government, the State Governments, the Universities, employees' and employers' organizations, and, indeed, every organized body and active citizen in the Commonwealth. The fundamental condition of effective reconstruction is a searching enquiry by all concerned into the economic and political structure of Australia, into its war-time developments and its external relationships. Some of the questions facing the division have called for immediate action. Of these the most urgent is perhaps the repatriation, training and retraining and re-employment of the members of the Forces in the present war.

7523.—8

INDEX.

	Page.
Accidents, Industrial	142
Acts, Regulating Industrial Matters	47, 52
Unemployment Relief	114
Agreements Filed	49
in Force	50
"All Items" ("C" Series) Index	14, 24, 35, 187
Appendix	159
Arbitration, Industrial—	
Acts Regulating	47, 52
Commonwealth Court	47, 75
Organizations Registered	151
State Tribunals	47
Arbitrator, Public Service	47, 49, 51, 54, 88
"A" ("All Houses") Series Index	35
Associations—	
Employers'	151
Labour (Employees')	145
Awards in Force	50
Made	49
Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Wholesale Price Index	44
Basic Wage, and Child Endowment	74
Commonwealth, "Harvester"	75
"Lag" in Adjustments	79
1934 Inquiry	77
1937 Inquiry	78
1940 Inquiry	79
Rates Ruling	81
Royal Commission, 1920	14, 30, 87, 88
States, Rates, &c.	81, 87
Boards, Wages and Industrial	47
"B" Series Index	9, 17, 35
Central Labour Organizations	150
Child Endowment	87
Clothing, Price Index-numbers	18
Regimen	4, 33
Coal-Mines—Accidents	145
Disputes	90
Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration	47, 75
Comparative Index-numbers (1911 base)	187
Composite Unit, Retail Prices	1
Consumption Weights, Retail Prices	3, 5
Conferences, International Labour	154
Statisticians' *re* Retail Prices	32, 33
Cost of Living, Australia and Other Countries	38
"C" ("All Items") Series Index	14, 24, 35, 187
"Court" Series Index	36, 79, 166
Currency, Retail Prices in terms of	21
"D" ("Harvester—All Items") Series Index	36
Department of Labour and National Service	188
Determinations Made	49
In Force	50
Disputes, Industrial	90
Causes	97
Duration	95
Methods of Settlement	100
Principal	91
Results	98
Working Days Lost, 1913 to 1939 (Graph)	vii

INDEX—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Effective or Real Wages	68, 187, viii
Employees' Associations	145
Employers' Associations	151
Employment, Direct Measures of	107
Fluctuations	102
Indexes, Factories	107, 110
New South Wales	108, 110, 112, 113
Queensland	108, 113
Retail Stores	108, 109
Tasmania	108, 114
Seasonal	107
State Labour Exchanges	133
Youth	132
Endowment, Family	87
Exchanges, State Labour	133
Factories, Employment Index	107, 110
Family Endowment	87
Unit, Commonwealth Court	75, 80
State Tribunals (Table)	87
Federations, Employers' Associations	153
Trade Unions	150
Females, Hours of Labour	62, 65, 67, 181
Minimum Occupational Wage Rates	181
Rates of Wage, Weighted Average	59, 62, 65
Field Officers, Appointment	1
Food and Groceries—	
Index-numbers	9, 25, 37, 187
„ 1911 Base	187
Regimen	3, 32, 34, 37
Various Countries	38, 156
Graphs—	
Disputes, Working Days Lost, 1913 to 1939	vii
Wholesale and Retail Prices, Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers	viii
"Harvester—All Items" ("D" Series) Index	36
"Harvester" Wage	75
Hours of Labour	55
Females	62, 67, 181
Males	61, 66, 167
Other Countries	184
Housing—	
"All Houses" (1911 Base)	35
Changes in Computation	32
Four and Five Rooms	10, 16, 22, 187
Weekly Rent Averages	165
Index-numbers—	
Employment	107
Hours of Labour—	
Females	67
Males	66
Retail Prices—	
"A" ("All Houses") Series (1911 base)	35
Base Periods	7
"B" Series	9, 17, 35
"C" ("All Items") Series	14, 24, 35, 181
Clothing	18
Collection of Returns	1
Comparative (1911 base)	187
Compilation	1
Conversion Factors	8
"Court" Series	36, 79, 166
Currency Equivalents ("C" Series)	22
"D" ("Harvester—All Items") Series	36
Food and Groceries	9, 25, 37, 187

INDEX—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Index-numbers—*continued.*	
Retail Prices—*continued.*	
Housing—	
"All Houses"	35
Four and Five Rooms	10, 16, 22, 187
International Comparisons	38
Mass Units	3, 5
Methods of Tabulation	8
Miscellaneous Household Requirements	19
Population Weights for Towns	8
Publication	30
Purchasing Power ("C" Series)	22
Relative Cost of each Group of Items	3, 7, 21
Relative Importance of Items and Groups	3, 7
Relative Merits	37
Series, Explanation of	34
Thirty Towns	10, 14
Two Hundred Towns	25, 37
Wage Variations on	34
Wages—	
Effective or Real	68, 187, viii
Nominal—	
Females	59, 65
Males	57, 63, 68
Wholesale Prices—	
Basic Materials and Foodstuffs	44
International	46
Melbourne	40, viii
Regimen	41
Industrial—Accidents	142
Agreements Filed	49
Boards	47
Disputes (*See* Disputes).	
Legislation	47, 52
Tribunals, Acts	47, 50
Methods of Administration	48
Operations	47
International, Hours of Labour	184
Labour Conferences	154
Retail Price Index-numbers	38
Retail Prices	156
Unemployment	155
Wages	184
Wholesale Price Index-numbers	46
Interstate Organizations, Employers	153
Trade Unions	150
Labour, Conferences, International	154
Department of, and National Service	188
Exchanges, State	133
Organizations	103, 145
Central	150
"Lag" in Adjustments of Basic Wage	79
Legislation, Industrial	47, 52
Unemployment Relief	114
Lockouts (*See* Disputes).	
Males, Hours of Labour	61, 66, 167
Minimum Occupational Wage Rates	167, 181, 184
Rates of Wage Weighted Average	57
Mass Units—*See* "Weights".	
Membership, Employers' Associations	152
Trade Unions	146
Mining Accidents	144
Miscellaneous Items, Retail Prices, Regimen	5
Index-numbers	19
Multipliers, Retail Prices	5
Occupational Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour	167, 181, 184
Operations, Industrial Tribunals	47

INDEX—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Organizations, Central Labour	150
Employers	151
Registered	151
Trade Unions	103, 145
Population, Weights	8
Prices, Average Retail, Capital Cities	156, 159
International Comparisons	38, 46, 156
Publication of Retail Prices and Price Index-numbers	31
Retail, Index-numbers	1
Wholesale, Index-numbers	40
Production, Value of	71
Productive Activity	71
Public Service Arbitrator	47, 49, 51, 54, 88
Purchasing Power of "C" Series Retail Price Index-numbers	22
Rates of Wage	55
Ration Scales, Unemployment Relief	118, 125
Real or Effective Wages	68, 187, viii
Regimens—	
Retail Prices	2
"All Items" ("C" Series) Index	3
Changes	33
Clothing	4, 33
Food and Groceries	3, 32, 34, 37
Groups and Sections	2
Miscellaneous Items	5
Wholesale prices	41
Registered Organizations	151
Relief of Unemployment	114
Rents.—*See* "Housing".	
Retail Prices—	
"All Items" ("C" Series) Index	14, 24, 35, 187
"A" ("All Houses") Series Index	35
Australia and Other Countries	38, 156
Average Monthly, Capital Cities	159
"B" Series Index	9, 17, 35, 187
Clothing, Index-numbers	18
Regimen	4, 33
Collection of Returns	1
Compilation of Indexes	1
Composite Unit	2
"C" ("All Items") Series Index	14, 24, 35, 187
"Court" Series Index	36, 79, 166
"D" ("Harvester—All Items") Series	36
Food and Groceries	9, 25, 37, 187
Graph	viii
Housing, "All Houses"	35
Four and Five rooms	10, 16, 32, 187
International Comparisons	38, 156
Mass Units	3, 5
Methods of Tabulation	8
Miscellaneous Items, Index-numbers	19
Regimen	5
Publication	30
Regimen	2, 32
Relative Cost of each Group of Items	3, 7, 21
Relative Importance of Items and Groups	3, 7
Thirty Towns	10, 14
Two Hundred Towns	25, 37
Wage Variations	34
Retail Stores, Employment	108, 109
Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920	14, 30, 87, 88
Seasonal Employment	107
Series of Index-numbers—Explanation	34
State Labour Exchanges	133
Tribunals	47

INDEX—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Statisticians' Conference	32, 33
Strikes and Lockouts—*See* " Disputes ".	
Sustenance, Rates	118, 125
Numbers in Receipt of	131
Thirty Towns Retail Price Index-numbers	10, 14
Towns, Population Weights	8
Trade Unions, Classified by Numbers of Members	149
Industrial Groups	147
Interstate or Federated	150
Number and Membership	146
Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners	147
Unemployment Amongst Members	102
Two Hundred Towns Retail Price Index-numbers	25, 37
Unemployment (*see also* Employment).	
Causes	106
Fluctuations	102
Numbers and Percentages	103, 187
Relief, Funds	126
Legislation and Taxation	114
Sustenance, Numbers on	131
Sustenance Rates	118
Sustenance Rates, summary for all States	125
State Labour Exchanges	133
Various Countries	155
Wage and Salary Earners, New South Wales	112
Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland	113
Unions, Trade	102, 145
Wage and Salary Earners, Total Numbers	148
Wages, Acts Regulating	47
Basic—(*See* " Basic Wage ").	
Boards, Authorized	51
Effective or Real	68, 187
Graph	viii
Nominal Weekly, Males	57, 187
Females	59
hourly, Males	61, 64, 65
Females	62, 65, 66
Occupational Rates, Males	167, 184
Females	181
Other Countries	184
Variations on Index-numbers	34
Weights—	
Population	8
Regimen—	
Retail Prices	3, 5
Wholesale prices	40
Wholesale Prices—	
Basic Materials and Foodstuffs	44
International Comparisons	46
Melbourne Index—	
Graph	viii
Grouping of Commodities	40
Index-numbers	43
Regimen	41
Variations since 1914	44
Youth Employment	132

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.